

COMICS PRICE GUIDE ISSUE

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE

#750

April 1, 1988

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United States Canada

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News

Marvel's Hercules fights his son. Walter Koenig is himself in *Eternity Smith*. Fund begins for Canadian comics shop. Rockteer returns. 1, et al.

Happy 10th, Eclipse!

In 10 years, Eclipse has helped shape the comics industry of today. We preview *Total Eclipse* and offer a history of Eclipse's publishing diversity. 3, 20

SF/Fantasy World

Nebula Awards nominees. 18

Prices, Prices, Prices

It's our quarterly price-guide issue. We offer current retail price lists and an analysis. 48-55

Note

Ron Goulart's "Funnies of the '30s" feature, which usually accompanies our quarterly price guide, will appear next week. "Comics in Your Future," which usually appears in every even-numbered issue, will appear in #752.

Byrne quits DC

Superman comics to be resolicited

By Maggie Thompson

John Byrne has abruptly quit DC and will no longer draw any of the Superman titles.

Asked to confirm reports that Byrne had left, DC Marketing Communications Manager Peggy May said, "Yes. In fact, we have to resolicit the books."

Byrne declined to comment.

In a news release to retailers, DC's statement was, "John Byrne has, unfortunately, suddenly resigned from *Superman*. To maintain the editorial quality of our premiere title, we're rescheduling the ship dates of his final issues. This will enable us to name the best possible successor and to offer you complete information on the issues you're ordering in the future."

Shipping dates are as follows:

• *Superman* #20 will ship on April 19 [it had been scheduled for April 5].

• *Superman* #21 will ship on May 17 [it had been April 19].

• *Superman* #22 will ship on June 21 [it had been May 3].

• *Adventures of Superman* will ship as originally scheduled, with the following contents: "*Adventures* #443 features a 30-page story by Jerry Ordway, pencilled by John Statema, and inked by Doug Hazlewood. Superman goes to Egypt, seeking a missing journalist but finds a race of inter-dimensional exiles instead."

• *Adventures* #444 will have the contents solicited originally as being in #443.

• *Adventures* #445 will have the contents solicited originally as #444.

• *Adventures of Superman Annual* #2, scheduled to ship May 10, has been postponed indefinitely.

"We really regret these last-minute changes," May said, "but they're really the best way to solve the problem we're facing. We appreciate everyone's understanding."

Charlton is bought by Sword in Stone

Sword in Stone Productions, a Canadian-based publisher, has purchased the comic book division of Charlton Publications.

The terms of the agreement, effective Jan. 1 and kept confidential by mutual agreement, involve nearly 5000 comic books as well as such publications as *Sick Magazine* and a line of assorted coloring and activity books.

"I'm very pleased with the acquisition," said Roger Broughton, publisher of the Montreal-based company. "I wanted a series of characters that we could grow from and I'm pleased to say that, with the acquisition of such series

as *Gunmaster*, *Atomic Mouse*, *Doomsday +1*, *Vengeance Squad*, and *ROG 2000*, we can really do some great things."

He said the first Charlton-related project from Sword in Stone will be the revival of *This Magazine Is Haunted*, *Atomic Mouse*, and *Gunmaster*. The issues will be part reprints and part new and unpublished material from the Charlton archives.

"We would hope that the fan media would not qualify this as a Charlton revival because very simply, it is not," Broughton said. "We hope to showcase the best of the material along with our own titles and, hopefully, expand and integrate the material for future generations to enjoy."

"I would very much appreciate listing my address and phone number as the only source for anyone wishing to buy or lease any rights to the material."

Broughton can be reached at 16130 Gouin W., Suite 5, Ste-Genevieve, Quebec, Canada H9H 1C8, or by phoning (514) 620-1114.

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COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE

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AD of the WEEK

4000 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Walter Koenig is himself in 'Eternity Smith' role

In what may be a comic book first, *Star Trek's* Walter Koenig makes a guest appearance as himself in *Eternity Smith* #9, on sale in June.

The plot involves an effort by freelance espionage agents to steal a vital component of the space shuttle from a Caltech laboratory. Koenig happens to be at Tech, giving a lecture on science and science fiction, when it happens, and he gets caught in events that team him with *Eternity Smith* and Skylark.

One of Koenig's fondest

wishes has been to appear in a comic book as himself, rather than as Pavel Chekov. This issue of *Eternity Smith* grew out of that desire, as expressed to *Smith's* regular colorist, Janice Cohen, who has studied acting with Koenig.

Several of Koenig's other students will be making appearances in this story. Hero Comics Publisher Dennis Mallonee, who earned his bachelor's degree as an undergraduate student at Caltech, can be seen in a few panels as well.

Hercules fights his son in new graphic novel

Hercules has a son, Arimathes, who wants to kill his father.

Arimathes will try to do so in a new, 80-page Hercules graphic novel from Marvel Comics, written and illustrated by Bob Layton. It is scheduled to ship May 31, with a \$7.95 cover price.

Titled *Full Circle*, the novel reveals that Layana Sweetwater (from the first *Hercules* limited series) became the Emperor Mother of the planet Wilamean and gave birth to Arimathes.

Over the years, Layana had grown to hate Hercules. As Arimathes grew, she passed that hatred to him, poisoning his mind against his father until Arimathes decided to find Hercules and kill him.



Upon encountering his son, Hercules decided that Arimathes needed to be taught the same lesson Zeus taught him centuries

before — humility.

Full Circle will have the same "Layton appeal" that made the two *Hercules* limited series so popular, said Editor Mark Gruenwald. "Take one part drama, one part humor and two parts action," he said. "Mix them together, add the freedom of the graphic novel format, and the result is pure entertainment."

Here's supporting cast — the robotic Rigelian Recorder and Skypki the Skrull, return for the novel.

Marvel is also collecting the first *Hercules* limited series in a trade paperback edition. This 96-page collection is scheduled to ship April 12, priced at \$5.95, and will re-present all four issues with a new Layton cover.

Defense fund started for Canadian comics shop

Paul Stockton and Derek McCulloch have formed The Comic Legends Legal Defense Fund in support of Julie Warren, Darren Ott, Dale Clarke, and any other comic book retailers who may face charges of distributing obscene materials in the future.

Warren, Ott, and Clarke, all of whom work at the Comic Legends comic-book shop in Calgary, Alberta, still face those charges. The shop received a surprise visit from the vice squad in September 1987. Acting on a mother's complaint, Detectives Al Stag and Dennis Moodie of the RCMP investigated the shop and confiscated 192 comics. None of the titles, according to Stockton and McCulloch, were mentioned in the original complaint.

Stockton and McCulloch said that the seizure later was ruled

illegal but that store personnel still face charges of distributing obscene materials.

Stockton and McCulloch said the aim of their fund is twofold: "to give Comic Legends all the financial, moral, and public support that it can muster; and to promote among the greater public the idea that comic books have a largely adult audience these days, and that freedom of expression is as crucial a right to comic books as it is to any other medium."

In May the fund will release a comic book called *The True North*; all proceeds will go toward paying Comic Legends' legal fees and establishing the fund for any future shops that may need it.

The comic book will be an anthology of works celebrating free speech, all created by artists and writers born or living in

Canada.

Announced contributors include: Dave Sim (*Cerebus*, the longest-running comic book being published in Canada), Matt Wagner (*Mage* and *Grendel*, the latter of which was named in the original complaint), Todd McFarlane (*Amazing Spider-Man*, *The Incredible Hulk*, *Batman*, and other titles for Marvel and DC), David Boswell (*Reid Fleming*), Bernie Mireault (*Grendel*, *The Jam*), Ken Steacy (*Night and the Enemy*), Ty Templeton (*Stig's Inferno*), Dean Motter (*Mr. X*), Marv Newland (animator of *Bambi Meets Godzilla*, organizer of *Anijam*), George Metzger (*Moondog*), Dan Day (*Cases of Sherlock Holmes*, *Aztec Ace*), Michael Cherkas and Larry Hancock (*Silent Invasion*), David Darrigo and R.G. Taylor (**DEFENSE, Page 3**)



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ADULT AUTHORIZATION _____ (over 18)

Died

James Williamson, 19, son of Al and Cori Williamson, was killed in an auto accident during the first weekend in March.

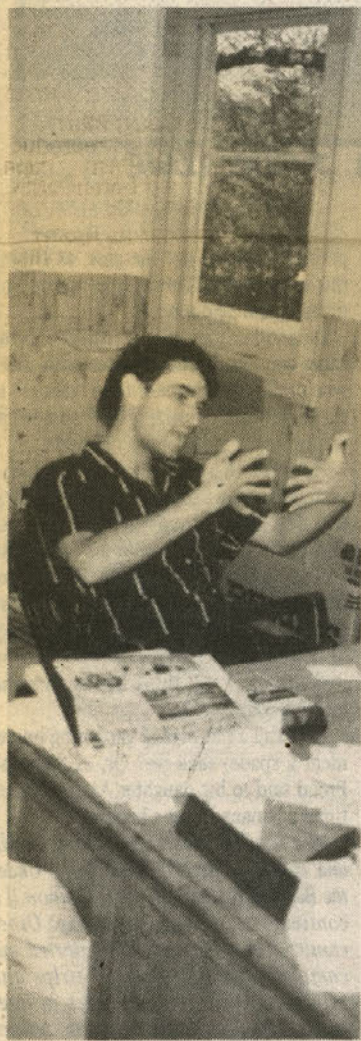
DEFENSE (From Page 1)

(Wordsmith), Derek McCulloch and Simon Tristram (*Night Life*), Gordon Derry (*Warlock 5*, another of the comics in the original complaint), Neil Hansen (*Icon Devil, Whisper*), William Van Horn (*Nervous Rex*), Seth (*Mr. X*), Chester Brown (*Yummy Fur*), George Freeman (*Captain Canuck* and work for Marvel), and Mark Shainblum and Gabriel Morrisette (*Northguard*).

The comic book will be followed by a poster, which will feature work by many of these artists.

Both projects are being funded entirely by private donations; should anyone wish to contribute, he or she can contact Paul Stockton, 5334 Yonge St., Ste. 120, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2N 6M2.

For further information, call any of the following: Paul Stockton at (416) 536-1015 (Toronto); Leonard Wong at (604) 325-7535 (Vancouver); Derek McCulloch (415) 655-5096 (Berkeley).



Total Eclipse Editor Fred Burke demonstrates the complex continuity problems of crossover series by preparing to interlock his fingers, as though they were individual character series.

An introduction to 'Total Eclipse'

By Sean Deming

We promised retailers that our 10th anniversary series would be the biggest, most ambitious series we've ever published. Now let's take a look at what we're delivering.

We'll begin by examining the front-story creative team:

Writer Marv Wolfman is known industry-wide for his collaborations with George Perez on *The New Teen Titans* and *Crisis on Infinite Earths*. Wolfman's is the job of pulling together widely diverse characters into one cohesive story; he will work closely with the creators of all characters appearing in *Total Eclipse*.

Pencilling Wolfman's scripts is Bo Hampton, writer and artist of *Lost Planet*.

Working with Hampton is inker Willie Blyberg, who inked Paul Gulacy's pencils on the *Valkyrie!* mini-series and inked Stan Woch and Bo Hampton on *Airboy*.

Bill Sienkiewicz will be painting every *Total Eclipse* cover.

Coloring the project is Sam Parsons, colorist for *Scout*.

Bill Pearson will letter the series. His list of credits is too long to reproduce here, but readers can check out his work in P. Craig Russell's latest *Jungle Book* story adaptation, *Red Dog*.

Many creators will work with Editor Fred Burke on *Total Eclipse*: Alan Moore, Doug Moench, Timothy Truman, Chuck Dixon, Steve Gerber, Max Collins and Terry Beatty, Michael T. Gilbert, Kurt Busiek, and B.C. Boyer.

Eclipse Publisher Dean Mullaney said, "*Total Eclipse* is a cooperative venture like none we've even attempted. And it's going to take the input of a large number of people. We're lucky to have so many creators who want to help us commemorate our tenth anniversary. We're going to do our utmost to make sure that they're happy with the finished work."

Editor-in-Chief Cat Yronwode will oversee the entire project. She said, "I've never worked on a crossover series of this magnitude before, but so far it's been an incredible experience to see how all the parts are coming together. You're going to see some twists and turns, and some character interactions you never believed would be forthcoming from The House of Individualism, that's for sure."

The characters who will be appearing within the five-issue series include: *Airboy*, *Aztec Ace*, *Beanish* (from *Beanworld*), *Black Angel*, *Destroyer Duck*, *The Heap*, *La Lupina*, *Liberty Project* (Burnout, Cimarron, Crackshot, Slick), *Masked Man*, *Miracleman*, *Misery*, *Mr. Monster*, *Ms. Tree*, *New Wave* (Avalon, Dot, Impulse, Megabyte, Polestar, Tachyon), *Prowler*, *The New Prowler*, *Skywolf*,

Strike, *Sgt. Strike*, and *Valkyrie*. And *Zzed* will be introduced to today's readers. That's 29 characters from at least 14 *Eclipse* titles spanning the last 10 years.

In addition to the front story, each issue of *Total Eclipse* will have an interlude tale featuring *Eclipse* characters as written and drawn by their regular teams.

In issue #1 is a *Prowler* adventure written by Timothy Truman. Pencilling this first interlude is Brent Anderson; at his request, Mike Dringenberg (who drew *Eclipse's Enchanter*) will do the inking.

"These interlude stories will give readers a chance to see their favorite characters done by their regular creative team," Burke said, "as well as offering important information about the characters and how they relate to the lead story."

Rounding out the package is a retrospective by Mullaney, covering *Eclipse's* first decade; it will be accompanied by previously unpublished *Eclipse* illustrations.

Eclipse Comics offers in the production of this 48-page Classic Format series: full painted colors, films produced by laser-scanning, metal printing plates, offset printing on an eight-color press, and high-quality paper.

The promotional effort behind *Total Eclipse*, the biggest in *Eclipse's* history, consists of:

- \$125,000 creative budget.
- \$100,000 promotional budget.
- Plastic bag promotion, with store names imprinted in quantities as low as 10,000.
- Free preview comics of *Total Eclipse* sent to shops in quantities 10 times that of their *Airboy* order a month prior to the first issue release, so that fans all over the country will ask for the series by name.
- *Amazing Heroes* and *Comics Interview* will devote entire issues to *Total Eclipse* and *Eclipse's* 10th Anniversary. *CBG*, *Retail Express*, *Speakeasy*, and *Comic Shop News* will devote multiple-page features to the series, and Gary Groth will do a *Comics Journal* interview with Dean Mullaney.
- Header cards announcing the "Total Eclipse Satisfaction Guarantee" will be available for store racks.
- Buttons and stickers will be made for for store managers and clerks saying, "Ask Me About The Total Eclipse Satisfaction Guarantee!"
- Advertising in the *Overstreet Price Guide*.
- Free posters sent through *CBG*.
- Point-of-purchase posters.
- For-sale posters.

Mullaney has offered the Total Eclipse Satisfaction Guarantee plan directed at the public. In an ad to appear in all major comics news magazines, on the back cover of the April *Eclipse Extra*, and the back cover of every April-shipping *Eclipse* comic, Mullaney said, "If you [the fan] are not completely satisfied with any issue of *Total Eclipse* you can return it to us and we'll send you 'Eclipse Bucks' for an equivalent value. You can redeem those 'Eclipse Bucks' at your local comics shop for any other *Eclipse* comics of your choice."

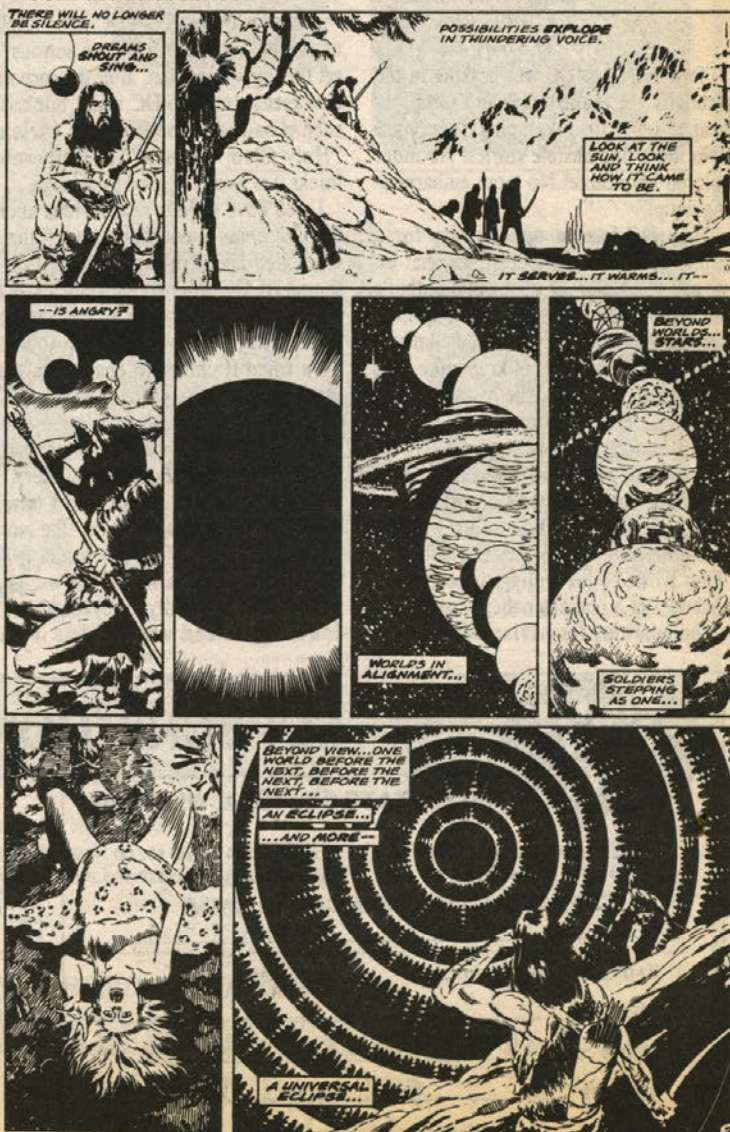
[Store owners can turn the "Bucks" in to *Eclipse* for the wholesale cost. In other words, if the fan doesn't like *Total Eclipse*, the retailer sells that fan twice the retail value of the purchase.]

"We want readers to order big on *Total Eclipse*, and, if they push it to fans, we guarantee the sale," Mullaney said. "You can tell your customers in your catalog that *Eclipse Comics*' responsibility to them doesn't end at the cash register."

Retailers with questions can call Distribution Manager Sean Deming at (707) 887-1521 or Sales Manager Beau Smith at (304) 453-2008.

Through a massive show of enthusiasm and cooperation among some of the industry's most creative talent on this, *Eclipse's* tenth anniversary, *Eclipse* and our creators prove that creator ownership and control produced the best comics possible. That's why we started publishing 10 years ago.

Join the celebration.



(Total Eclipse continues on Page 8)

Mo-Kan Spring Comics Festival to feature Fred Rhoads, Russ Heath

The Kansas City Comic Book Club's Mo-Kan Spring Comics Festival will be held May 7-8 at the K.C. Trade Mart in suburban Overland Park, Kansas. Confirmed guests include Fred Rhoads and Russ Heath.

Rhoads is making his first convention appearance ever at Mo-Kan, and will do sketches and caricatures. He wrote and drew for four decades on the *Sad Sack* comic books. He created many of the supporting characters, including Slob Slobinski, General Rockjaw, Sadie Sack, Hi-Fi Tweeter, and Gabby Gob.

Heath was as one of the top horror artists on the *Timely*

(Marvel) line in the '50s. He is also known for his work on DC's war books and on *Sea Devils*. He is currently doing *The Nam* graphic novel for Marvel, among other projects.

He also is the inker on Marvel's *Shadow* graphic novel.

Mike Worley, convention co-chairman, said, "Many of our fans got to see the pencils a year ago when we had Michael Kaluta as our guest. It was great to have been able to preview the thing before a lot of the larger shows. Now we get to follow it up, and it is my understanding that Mr. Heath may be bringing original art from *The Shadow* to

sell."

Other plans for the show include moving into the K.C. Trade Mart, a new facility in suburban Overland Park.

"The Trade Mart is a huge building, built specifically for shows such as ours. We had just outgrown the Ranchmart Auditorium and couldn't possibly see that going back there was feasible," said Mike Wileman, convention co-chairman.

For more details on the show, or information on the Kansas City Comic Book Club, write: Jerry Schattensburg, 13640 White St., Apt. 1, Grandview, Mo. 64030.



Following is a short, *incomplete* list of comics business cliches.

He is taking over the art chores (he will draw the comic book). We certainly will agree that doing the art for a comic book is no picnic in the park, especially on deadline, but why is doing the art always referred to as "chores"? While doing the art chores, will he also fetch firewood and slop the hogs?

Epic, saga, tale (story). No one writes stories any more, but we have epics and sagas coming out of our ears. This is a result of the same thinking that has bad writers avoiding the use of "said" by having characters state, expostulate, exclaim, remark, laugh, chuckle, snort ("I don't believe it!" he snorted. Try doing that and you'll hurt yourself.), and dekrelnify. As every bad sports writer knows, you should never repeat a word, so you can only use a perfectly good, clear, *correct* word a maximum of once per day, then you drag down the *Thesaurus*.

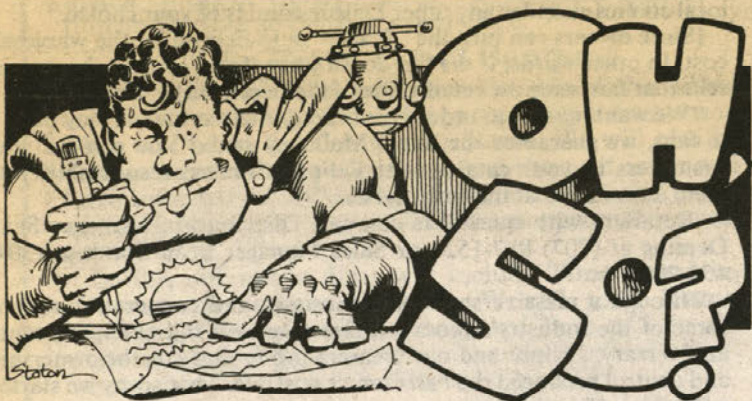
Authored by (written by). We don't reader a story; why does the writer author it? Does he also watcher television?

The creative team (the people who write and draw comic books). Referring to writers and artists as if they were engineers designing a universe has to be very near the ultimate in egoism. Newspapers frequently refer to a drawing as "an artist's conception," as in "an artist's conception of the murder scene." Why not call it a drawing of the murder scene? And why not call a "creative team" a writer and artist?

Writing for publication makes some normal, natural people turn pompous, stiff, and unnatural. The result is an outpouring of cliches. People who have never said "hence" or "thus" in their lives sit at a typewriter or a computer keyboard, and hences and thuses pour out of them like vinegar out of a bucket. Somehow it doesn't seem sufficient to say "story" or "written by" if it's actually going to be put in ink on paper.

Cliches are unavoidable when writing a lot and in a hurry — we have used several in this brief editorial — but there are fresher cliches to choose from than these.

Maybe the larger comics companies — The Big Two — could sign a creative team to the writing chore of authoring new cliches for the next epic saga in the works.



George Haberberger Jr.
10803 Three Court
St. Louis, Mo. 63123

Two years ago DC was basking in the publicity the mainstream and fan press heaped on it for revamping Superman. "No more implausible stories! No more colored kryptonite! No more embarrassing camp!"

Now DC has an opportunity for a prime-time network special, so what do we get? Hal Holbrook saying that Luthor's hatred of Superman stems from an incident in their teens, Ralph Nader explaining the different kinds of kryptonite, and Franken and Davis as The Awesome pair. So much for the revamping.

I can understand the need for the TV special to be more than just a dry parade of facts about Superman's history, but an entertaining show is possible without compromising the rejuvenating efforts of John Byrne or the willing suspension of disbelief of a character they're supposed to be honoring for having achieved his

50th year.

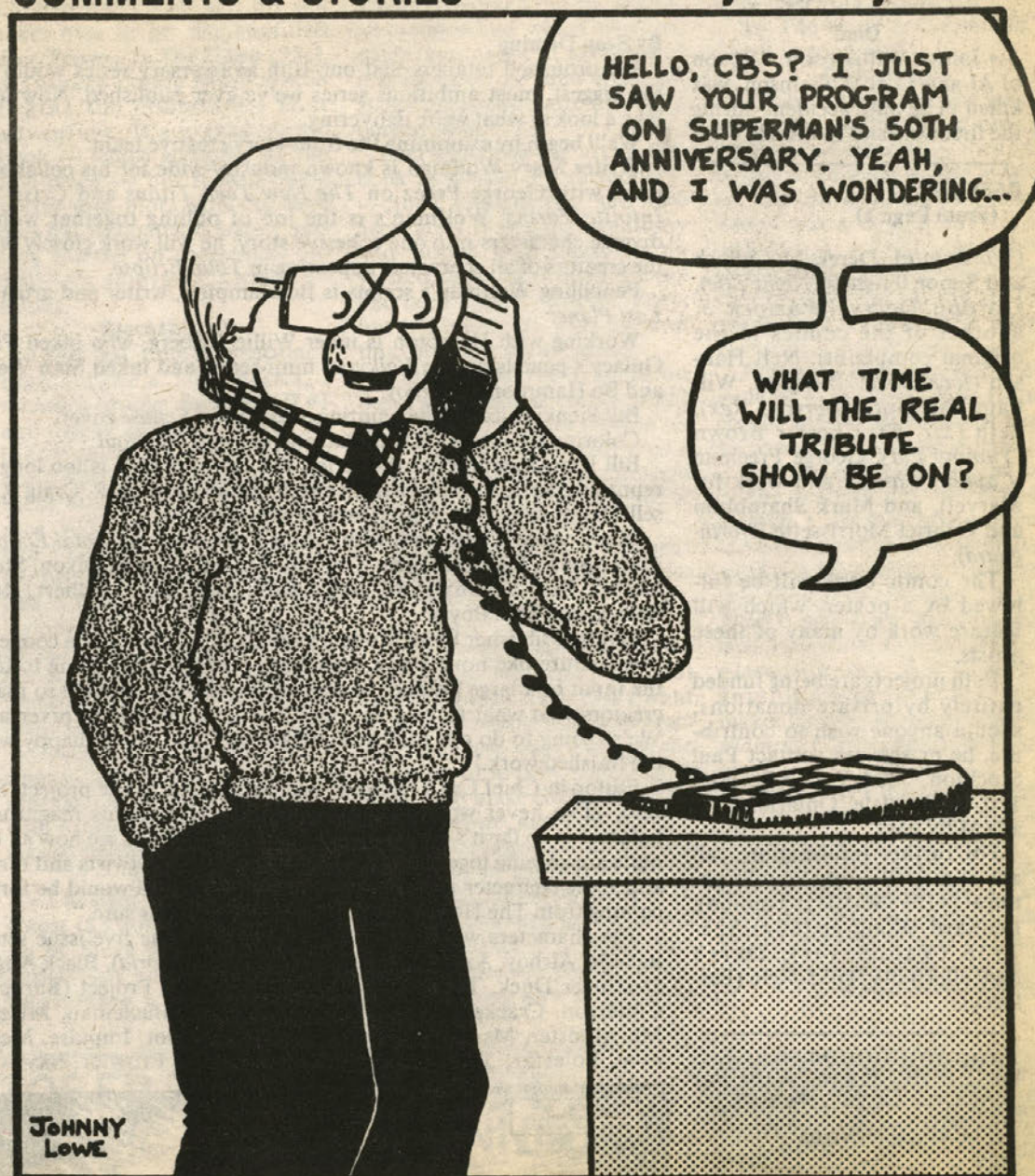
And should we believe DC when it tells us the Batman movie will be serious? I get the impression that, after the corporation gets its money, DC won't think it's such a bad idea for Robin to exclaim "Holy Oleo, Batman!" if Hollywood thinks that would be good for a laugh.

I also have serious reservations about the *Watchmen* movie that Jenette Kahn is so excited about in this month's *Publi-shor*ial. If DC willingly sells out its flagship character to appeal to the broadest possible audience, what qualms would it have when it comes to characters that have no tradition to protect? Personally, I believe any translation of *Watchmen* to film could only be a *reduction* of its scope, no matter how extravagant the budget.

I don't mean to sound like I hated everything about the TV show (the montage of quick cuts of similar scenes from the cartoons, serials, TV shows, and movies was especially enjoyable), but I don't understand why DC felt it was

COMMENTS & STORIES

by Johnny Lowe



JOHNNY LOWE

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acceptable to sabotage the "back to basics" approach it was bragging about two years ago.

Finally, what will the average man on the street glean from this presentation? Possibly this: "That was a cute show, but comics are still silly. Comics are still kids' stuff. Comics are not the medium for serious themes. It's probably a good idea to censor them."

If we have to care what the mainstream thinks about comics we need to use these opportunities to dispel stereotypes, not reinforce them.

[DC did not produce the TV special. Blame the CBS television network and the show's producer, Lorne Michaels. It would have been nice if DC had been given script approval, but that isn't the way they play the game in show biz.]

Murray R. Ward
P.O. Box 3693, Station B

Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 3R6 Canada
In regards to your answer to Jim Lowder in the lettercol of *CBG* #747, unless there's some really good reason that you don't want to come right out and say it, could you please tell me the names of the "leading presidential candidate" who "attacked comic books" and the one who "is married to a woman who is best known for her attempts to censor the recording industry"?

As a Canadian, I can't vote in your election, but as a comic book fan and indexer, I have a vested interest in its outcome. I'd just like to be able to identify these candidates without sitting through endless hours of media hoopla for an election I can't vote in (I have to sit through it for our elections, instead). If one of them is

Pat Robertson, however, you needn't name him; some people I already know not to support.

[Our apologies to you and other *CBG* readers residing outside the United States. We left out the names because (a) we didn't want to be accused of politicking — a vain hope, as it turned out — and (b) we wanted potential voters to study the records of all the candidates and make an informed choice.]

The one who attacked comic books, calling mutants "subhumans" and giving the impression, either through malice or ignorance, that newsstand comic books now cost \$5.95, was Pat Robertson, in his capacity as host of *The 700 Club*. Tipper Gore, wife of Albert Gore, has been a leading voice in calling for the censorship of the recording industry.

This response to your letter is being written on the afternoon of March 8, which has been hyped to death as "Super Tuesday," when the southern states hold their primary elections. It is possible that one or both of these men may no longer be candidates by the time the votes are counted this evening, but they were when we made our initial comment.]

Randy H. Crawford
911 Park St. S.W.
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49504

In the March 11 "Oh, So?" you replied to Aaron Del Shannon that *Garfield* is the only current comic strip being reprinted in its entirety. I was under the impression that the *Calvin and Hobbes* paperback contained a consecutive run of that strip beginning with the first episode, and that subsequent volumes would continue in this fashion. I will be bitterly disap-

pointed if this is not the case, as I think this is the way all comic strip reprint volumes should be done.

On another topic also mentioned in the same column, I tend to agree with those who prefer the European term "album" to the hi-fallutin' sounding and somewhat misleading "graphic novel" designation.

However, there is another term which I prefer to use, which I think quite accurately describes not only "graphic novels" and British "comics albums" but also comic book reprint volumes in either trade paperback or hardcover form. That term is "comic book," as in the sentence "I don't care if it is a leather-bound limited edition, I still think \$50 is an awful lot for a comic book."

Let's call a flat-bladed gardening implement a spade, shall we? Or, as Sigmund Freud said to his daughter Anna: "Sometimes a banana is just a banana."

[We have yet to see the second *Calvin and Hobbes* collection (*Something Under the Bed Is Drooling*), so we don't know if it continues to reprint every strip. Other comic strip collections have started out complete and then skipped strips and printed them in random order in later books. The first *Kudzu* collection printed every strip in sequence; subsequent ones did not. Ballantine has published 14 *Garfield* collections and has yet to skip a strip or print one out of sequence.]

Just as we try to avoid calling something an annual event when it has only happened once, we prefer to wait to make sure the first *Calvin and Hobbes* collection was not a fluke before we say that the series is presenting all the strips in sequence.

The *Garfield* books have all been best-
(LETTERS, Page 8)



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LETTERS

(From Page 4)
sellers; *Calvin and Hobbes* has sold nearly a million copies so far. Completeness certainly didn't hurt them any.
We favor the term "graphic album." Calling every book of comics a "graphic novel" is like calling every book a novel. "Graphic album" includes collections of stories by the same author (*A Contract*

with God), long single stories (*Watchmen*), anthologies of stories by different writers and artists (*The Greatest Superman Stories Ever Told*), nonfiction in comics form (*The Gift*), or collections of comic strips (*Calvin and Hobbes*).
However, calling everything in comics form a comic book overlooks the fact that a comic book is a periodical. Would you call *War and Peace* a magazine?

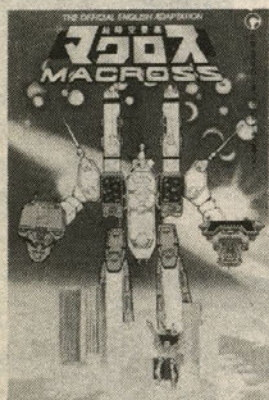
Chuck Thornton
698 Stonebrook Dr. #95
Corona, Calif. 91719

The recent Friendly Frank's decision has prompted a new flurry of letters on the subject of censorship and, with it, the evidence of an attitude that disturbs me.
Whenever a label is needed for whoever is perceived as behind the censorship movement, the label most often applied

seems to be that of "fundamentalist." It's the fundamentalists who want to force their beliefs on everyone else. It's the fun-

damentalists who want all comics to feature Richie Rich or Little Dot. It's the (LETTERS, Page 10)

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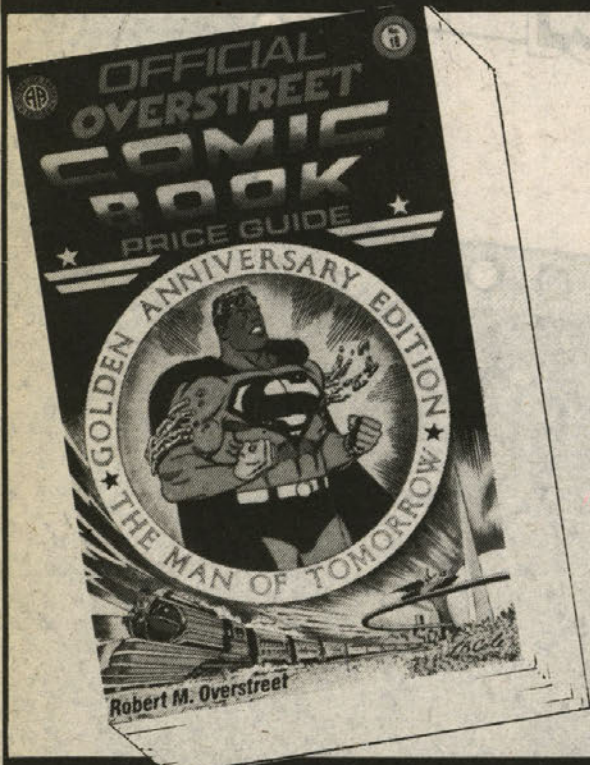
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(Total Eclipse continues on Page 10)

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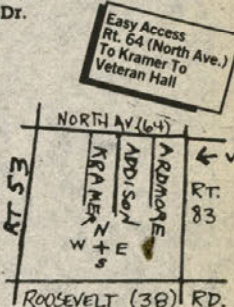
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TOP OF THE NEWS

PAGE 9

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ROBOT Battalion 2050 Mixes The Arms Race With Big Teddy Bears

Cheap, Shoddy Robots Finally Make Debut

C "This is the validation of ten years of hard work," says writer Beppe Sabatini of the debut of his new comic *ROBOT Battalion 2050*, with art by Gary Martin, Martin King, and Jeff Albrecht.

"I got the xeroxes from Fred [Burke, editor] in the mail, and it was a pleasant surprise and a shock to see that this book—which I've worked so hard on—existed," Sabatini says. "You get so close to the material, working on a book, that sometimes you forget that after it's all over, there's actually going to be a comic."

ROBOT Battalion 2050 went through some radical changes on its way to the nation's comic shops. Originally titled, *Cheap Shoddy Robot Toys*, the book's sales suffered from the stigma attached to four-word parody books.

Feeling the book wasn't getting the attention it deserved, publisher Dean Mullaney and distribution manager Sean Deming worked with Sabatini to come up with a more salesworthy title, and a new cover (by Bill Sienkiewicz) was commissioned.

Previewed in *Amazing Heroes* #135, the book has also received favourable comment from Don Thompson, co-editor of *CBG*. "My favourite title of the year has yet to appear (it was supposed to ship last November) and may never appear," he said in a recent review. "It's *Cheap Shoddy Robot Toys* #1, a humorous look at giant robots, Ronald Reagan, and the Cold War. I've only seen seven pages of it... but there are several laughs on those pages, and I hope the complete issue eventually materializes."



Art © 1988 Gary Martin/Martin King

Sabatini is also glad to see *ROBOT Battalion 2050* materialize, particularly with the strong appeal of the finished art. "Even though I knew all the artists I had working on it were good, the finished art was even better than I hoped it would be. It exceeded my high expectations," he says.

Another colour book by Sabatini is already in the plans. "I'm trying to come up with something that will make so much money for Eclipse that they'll have to rent another office to store their money in."

ROBOT Battalion 2050 is in the deluxe black and white format and retails for \$2.00. It's on sale now, folks.



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DEAN MULLANEY

Eclipse Publisher Dean Mullaney's personal statement of commitment to retailers.

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The first pages of *Total Eclipse* art by Bo Hampton and Willie Blyberg are in, the story has been completely plotted by writer Marv Wolfman, and Eclipse publisher Dean Mullaney has decided that the result is good enough to guarantee. This week Mullaney announced a plan to issue "Eclipse Bucks" to any unsatisfied fan. These "Eclipse Bucks" could be used at any comics shop to purchase any other Eclipse title.

"If you (the fan) are not completely satisfied with any issue of *Total Eclipse*," Mullaney says, "you can return it to us and we'll send you 'Eclipse Bucks' for an equivalent value. You can redeem those 'Eclipse Bucks' at your local comics shop for any other Eclipse comics of your choice."

Mullaney thinks the guarantee is one more reason for retailers to order plenty of copies of *Total Eclipse*. "Publishers are always telling [retailers] how great their new series are and why you should order

heavy on them. But how many [publishers] will guarantee their sales with their own wallets?! None of them but me. I will guarantee your sales on *Total Eclipse*," said Mullaney in a letter to retailers.

"Eclipse Bucks" are to be spent by the fan for the purchase of other Eclipse comics. You [the retailer] send us the Eclipse bucks, and we'll reimburse you for the full wholesale value of the returned issue.

"In other words, if your customers aren't completely satisfied with *Total Eclipse*, you can't lose. Even if the fan doesn't like *Total Eclipse*, you've still made your sale... plus, you'll sell them an equivalent retail value in your other Eclipse stock. You make out twice as good!" Mullaney continued.

"I'm putting my profit on the line, because I'm confident that *Total Eclipse* will sell twice as well—if not three times as well—as any other current Eclipse title," he concluded.



CRAIG MAHER '88

THIS IS FIT TO PRINT NUMBER 202: Well, what did you expect? Perhaps a Sam Shepard play starring Gregory Peck? A Jimmy Yancey piano solo? Jeez, some folks...

A FEW MORE HARD LEARNED LESSONS: Continuing from last issue, this is the conclusion of the hard learned truths I wish to pass on to you before I pass on myself.

7) Always buy original pressings of records you like and play them on original equipment, whether the originals are on 78, 45 or lp format. Original pressings have greater tonal range than any form of repressing, provided the material is in mint or near mint condition. If original pressings are hard to find or too costly, shop carefully for repressings. Don't ever buy reprocessed stereo records made from monophonic masters. They're never any good. Digital remastering (on cd or lp) is okay, particularly if the original masters were on tape. If the originals were metal or acetate masters, wax cylinders, or transcription discs, digital remastering is a two-stage process; first to tape "masters" and then to digitalization. The results will only be as good as the talent of the technician who does the double-transfer job, so don't expect miracles.

8) Women, never marry or attempt to have children with any man who makes fun of the way pregnant women look. Try for a guy who goes all emotional and tender whenever he sees a pregnant woman in the supermarket check-out line. He'll make a better father for your kids.

9) The camellia disease known as sclerotina or petal rot is a fungus which winters over in fallen blossoms and infects new blossoms the next spring. Sclerotina does not harm the camellia tree itself, only the flower petals, but in some districts it is so common that gardeners believe it is "normal" for camellia flowers to turn brown and gooey before they fall. Such is not the

case: The plant blooms during its dormant season and fallen blossoms should look perfectly fresh and colourful when they drop from the branch. The only way to control sclerotina is to pick up all blossoms as they fall and BURN them. Do not compost them, as this will not kill the sclerotina spores. It is very hard to get rotting camellia flowers to burn. You'll need plenty of gasoline. The aroma of rotting, fungus-infested camellia flowers burning is somewhat like that of fresh-brewed Chinese tea. Enjoy it.

10) When ordering varnished or laminated card-stock covers for graphic albums, make sure that the printer cuts the paper so the grain doesn't cause the covers to curl up. Even with this precaution, covers printed and varnished or laminated back East in winter are more apt to curl than other covers because of the low humidity in artificially heated shops. In the West, where winter means lots of rain, this is not such a big problem. Storing tightly packed boxes of curly-covered albums in a damp garage or barn will cause them to relax and flatten out eventually, but the problem will occur again as soon as the books are sold and taken into dry houses.

11) Cat flea collars cause cancer. Don't let your pet wear them. You may think collars are safer for the animal than periodic washing with poisonous soaps, but consider: Smoking one big fat cigar every two months is less likely to give you cancer than smoking a pack of thin little cigarettes every day. Same principle.

12) Set your Ames lettering guide at 3 1/2 on the non-metric scale (for 10 x 15 artwork) and use the evenly-spaced holes. Do two, skip one, do two, skip one. At this size the letters can be exactly covered by Avery One-Line Correction Tape, which is faster than white-out at correction time.

Good luck in life, and write if you get work, okay?

Heading this time by CRAIG ("LINEN FINISH") MAHER. To see YOUR name in boldface type and your art or lettering here, make FtP logos 8 1/2 inches wide by 3 inches deep and send 'em to catherine yronwode, p.o. box 1099, forestville, california 95436

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Xenon Sales Rise With Issue #7

New Readers Continue To Pick Up Cyborg Tale

Xenon, the latest manga bi-weekly from Eclipse International and Viz Comics, continues its slow burning success. "Sales on *Xenon* went up with issue #7," says distribution manager Sean Deming, "and we're expecting back issue prices to continue to rise."

The first issue of Masaomi Kanzaki's *Xenon* was an instant sell-out, much like the other three manga translations, and new readers continue to pick up the book. "I think issue #7 sold better because it's such a good place to start collecting the book," says Deming. The issue includes a text piece to help new readers catch up and is also the first episode in a new storyline.



Art © 1988 Masaomi Kanzaki/Shogakukan

"*Xenon* is just the thing for superhero readers who have been asking us to do an action-oriented manga," says editor Letitia Glozer. "*Xenon* is cyborg action from cover to cover. It's also the closest thing to fighting robots that we have in our manga lineup."

"I think the book has a very odd appeal," says co-translator Fred Burke. "Kanzaki wrote and drew *Xenon* when he was very young, and I think it has a certain naiveté because of that. *Xenon*'s just a rousing romp, the sort of thing comics used to be in less cynical days. With cyborg transformations and heavy artillery thrown in, of course."

Xenon retails for \$1.50 and ships twice a month. Issue #7 of the deluxe black and white is now on sale.

LETTERS

(From Page 8)

fundamentalists who want to make all literature safe for our children by removing the likes of *The Wizard of Oz* and *Huckleberry Finn* from our school bookshelves.

I would just like to point out that these positions are not part of the definition of a fundamentalist. They are simply positions that some, but not all, fundamental-

ists hold. I know there are others who would not want to be painted with the same brush.

I'm a comics fan. I like *Watchmen* and *The Dark Knight* and John Byrne's *Superman* and — well, just comics in general. I'm not crazy about the Friendly Frank's decision either, especially the fact that the material was judged inherently obscene while *Playboy*, *Penthouse*, and *Hustler* are

still standing at the old Stop 'n Go.

I am also a fundamentalist; that is, I believe in the *Bible* as written in the original manuscripts, and I believe it was written by God, using men moved by Him. Scripture compels me to hold positions that are probably not popular with a majority of the population, and certainly not with the majority of *CBG* readers. I'm thinking of such issues as abortion,

divorce, homosexuality, and the larger issue of what makes up sexual morality. I don't, however, believe in taking material off the stands because it is morally offensive to me.

This is not as open-minded as it might sound. I don't feel this way because I simply feel that everyone is entitled to his own belief as long as he doesn't inflict it on anyone else. It has more to do with the fact that I don't think that suppression of this material is going to bring people closer to Christ, and bringing people to

Christ is what being a Christian is all about.

The *Bible* teaches that it is not the externals that define a man, but rather what he feels in his heart. To be a Christian is to believe that all the good deeds and pious behavior in the world will not get you to Heaven if you do not have a saving faith in Christ and an acceptance of his sacrifice on our behalf. So to yank

(LETTERS, Page 12)

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Strike and Sgt. Strike come to blows over ownership of the power harness, which grants the wearer super-strength and invulnerability.

(Total Eclipse continues on Page 12)

Our half page ad in the Superman issue contained an incorrect phone number. Our correct phone number is (312) 349-2486. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

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LETTERS (From Page 10)

"obscene" or un-Christian material out of the hands of the general populace isn't a logical form of evangelism. Rather, it is more important that a Christian share his knowledge of Christ whenever he can, and hopefully bring people to a desire to please Him. Then they'll quit buying the dirty books on their own.

This concept of sharing one's faith seems to be a hard one for people to accept. I remember an impression I had during a portion of Harlan Ellison's monologue at the last San Diego Comic Convention. He divided Christians into two groups: the Jerry Falwell "moral majority" types, and the rest of us. The problem for me was that I felt like Harlan saw the latter group as one made up of those Christians who have the good taste and the open mind to let others believe what they want without any attempt to bring them to Christ. In other words, the best Christians were the ones who kept their faith to themselves.

But how can we? We believe (with excellent foundation) that God has written a book for us that commands us to go out and share the Gospel; not that we command them to "be good," or that we act as moral guardians for society, but that we tell them of the only way they can save themselves from an eternity of suffering. And there are a lot of people who believe this who do not agree with the tactics of your average televangelist.

I apologize for going on at length about a subject that is probably not considered appropriate for the pages of *CBG*, but I feel that, since fundamentalists seem to receive the greatest share of blame for the attitude that has led to the Friendly Frank's decision, a wider view of that group should be considered.

Thanks for the time, and for your newspaper.

[Thank you for your views.]

It should be noted that the people who are most vociferous about yanking textbooks out of schools, novels out of libraries, and magazines and comic books off store shelves have a tendency to identify themselves as fundamentalists and act as though they speak for all fundamentalists — witness, for example, the recently overturned attempt to force schools in Tennessee not to have in their libraries and classrooms such books as *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Diary of Anne Frank* because they were contrary to the beliefs of fundamentalists.

It is not the non-fundamentalists who identify fundamentalists with attempts to censor other persons' reading matter — it is the fundamentalists who do the censoring while loudly proclaiming that it is being done on behalf of fundamentalists.]

Mark C. Dooley
105 Wehmeier St.
Columbus, Ind. 47201

The CBS special, *Superman's 50th Anniversary*, has come and gone. Gee whiz, it's so nice to once again be the focus of ridicule. I was starting to get such a big head after all this press coverage on *Watchmen*, *Dark Knight Returns*, and the rest. I needed that cold, refreshing slap in the face to bring me back to harsh reality.

I have a scale I measure the comic book media events by. The top of the scale includes, of course, *The Adventures of Superman* TV show, *Superman I*, and the wonderful coverage by *Entertainment This Week* just a couple of months back.

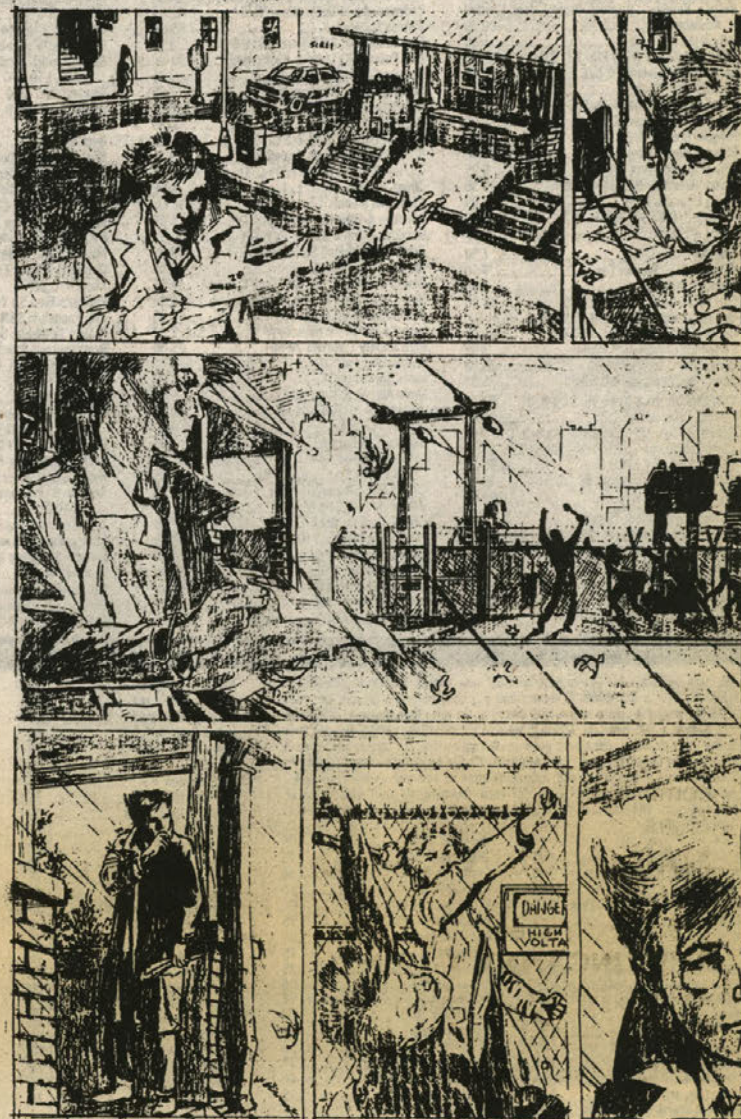
At the bottom, which is covered with a thin layer of slime, are Hanna-Barbera's live-action super-hero shows from 1976 and that awful television version of *It's a*

Bird! It's a Plane! It's Superman!

The 50th anniversary show barely misses the cellar of no-return, solely on the basis of the well-edited opening sequence with Jackson Beck's wonderfully nostalgic narration and the disappointingly brief interviews with Kirk Alyn, Noel Neill, Jack Larson, and John Byrne, all of whom appeared truly eager to talk about the character that drew them together.

What goes through Showbiz' mind when it comes to dealing with the comics, particularly with super-heroes? Could Lorne Michael have actually thought a trip to DC Comics Inc., extended interviews with John Byrne, Jerry Siegel, and Joe Shuster, and a look at how comics have matured over the years would be less entertaining and informative than that

(LETTERS, Page 14)



Waiting for a date, Scott Kida, the young Prowler, comes across three men waylaying a woman who appears to be more than capable of taking care of herself.

(Total Eclipse continues on Page 14)

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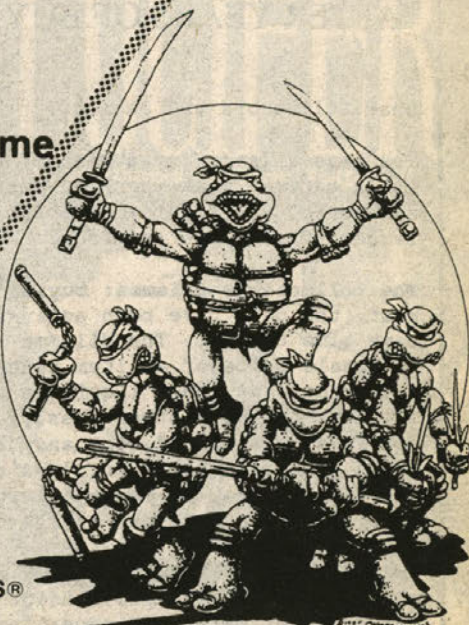
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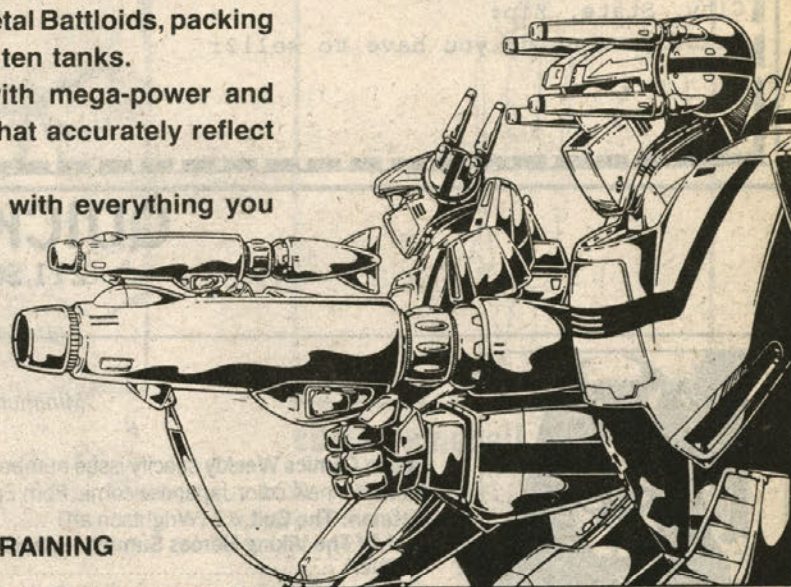
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(CBG)

LETTERS

(From Page 12)

pointless Jimmy Breslin skit concerning Jimmy Olsen's writing prowess? Or that woman who claimed Superman fathered her illegitimate child? Gosharootie, weren't that funny, Orley? Yuk, yuk, yuk!

I could have excused all of it if the damned thing had at least been *funny*! Given the kind of talent participating in this so-called "celebration," both on camera and off, they should have given us, if not a straightforward documentary-entertainment show, at least a *funny* one. But

all we got was yet another cynical, condescending approach to one of the most enduring characters in literature.

It really shows the total lack of control DC Comics has over projects like this. Everyone outside of the interview segments looked absolutely embarrassed by what they were doing. Next to the illegitimate brat thing, a real low point was Hal Holbrook in a baggy Superman costume preparing for a "one-man play." They must have offered him a truckload of money.

Dana Carvey as the host was as compelling as moss on oak.

Doesn't DC care about its public image? This could have been the one really big chance DC had to present itself as a publishing company proud of its characters, the people who write, draw, and create them, and the fans who have supported DC for more than 50 years. Who's running the P.R. department nowadays? Pee Wee Herman?

Fortunately, there don't seem to be any plans for a Batman "celebration" on television. That would definitely kill any chance of building the mainstream public acceptance that is finally within our grasp.

In answer to Aaron Del Shannon's letter (CBG March 11, 1988) asking about the value of old comic strips: Daily strips usually run about \$30 for complete years - incomplete years are not of much value. Sunday strips run from about \$12 for a year of quarter-page *Spider-Man* up to about \$50 for a year of half-page *Tarzan*.

Format is very important - most collectors will not buy quarter pages, reluctantly buy thirds, love half pages. Of course, strips from the '30s and '40s command much higher prices. I've recently seen *Superman* strips that were selling for \$1 apiece just a couple of years ago advertised for \$50 each.

After you clip the strips, what do you do with them? For daily strips, an unstamped legal-length envelope works fine. It will hold about a year of dailies. For Sundays, I recommend saving an entire page from the Sunday paper, and putting new pages inside the old, to make a book. Of course, you need a Sunday paper that always runs the same strip in the same place. My own "books" of the Russ Manning *Tarzan* half-pages from the *Asbury Park Press* look mighty fine, and I also have a "book" of Mike Grell *Tarzans*.

And, of course, comics strip collectors can get complete runs of *Steve Canyon*, *Bloom County*, *Modesty Blaise*, *The Phantom*. (LETTERS, Page 16)

Rick Norwood

Box 336

Mountain Home, Tenn. 37684



Black Angel finds things aren't as much in control as she first thought. The young Prowler also notices and jumps in to help.

(Total Eclipse continues on Page 16)

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JOSEPH KOCH:

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LETTERS

(From Page 14)

tom, Latigo, Popeye, Hagar the Horrible, Flash Gordon, and Gasoline Alley in Comics Revue, \$35 for 12 issues at the address above.

[When clipping strips, leave a margin of a quarter inch to a half inch around the strip. Do not clip it right to the edge of the strip.]

Wendi Lee
120 W. 9th
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

With all the problems we've experienced over the past year with First Amendment freedoms, I thought I might pass along a small piece of information:

Nomination forms for the 1988 Hugh Hefner First Amendment Awards are now available to honor the people who have stood up for our First Amendment rights. The forms are available by writing to the Playboy Foundation, 919 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611. The nomination deadline is April 29. All of this information can be found in the April issue of Playboy (on page 52). Past winners have included lawyers, journalists, educators, publishers, and entertainers.

My nomination for this year? Why, publisher Denis Kitchen, of course! With the onslaught of problems in Lansing, Illi-

nois due to the Friendly Frank's decision, Kitchen has published a benefit portfolio and set up a defense fund for Michael Correa, the comic shop manager who has borne the brunt of this whole travesty. Kitchen has also retained lawyer Burton Joseph for the defense and is administering the defense fund. My personal opinion is that Kitchen more than deserves the nomination.

I'm sure there are more people who are qualified to be nominated for the First Amendment Awards also. If so, I urge you to make their names known to the Playboy Foundation committee before the end of April. And if you agree that Denis Kitchen is a good candidate for nomination, I'm sure another form declaring that wouldn't hurt his chances.

Ka-Zar the savage and Shanna the She-Devil guest-star in *X-Men Annual* #12, written by Chris Claremont, pencilled by Art Adams, and inked by Bob Wiacek, as The Evolutionary War takes the X-Men back to the Savage Land. As of this issue, Ka-Zar and Shanna are parents; the annual ships June 14, will be 64 pages square-bound, and retails for \$1.75.



An uncostumed Strike, angry over his earlier fight, has his workout interrupted when all the city's lights go out.

(Total Eclipse concludes on Page 20)

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Welcome to my latest ad. These goodies are direct from the "vault." Beautiful kits, all original and becoming very hard to find. Happy Hunting!

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SCIENCE-FICTION/FANTASY WORLD

Nebula Awards Nominations for 1987 are announced

Former *CBG* columnist Lawrence Watt-Evans is among the nominees for the 1987 Nebula awards.

The Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel May 20-21 will be the site of the Science Fiction Writers of America's Nebula Weekend. The awards banquet will be held during the event and, at the banquet, Nebula Awards will be given to those voted by members of the organization as the best of 1987.

The nominees are as follows:

• **Best Novel:** *The Falling Woman* by Pat Murphy (Tor); *The Forge of God* by Greg Bear (Tor); *Soldier of the Mist* by Gene Wolfe (Tor); *The Uplift War* by David Brin (Phantasia/Bantam Spectra); *Vergil in Averno* by Avram Davidson (Doubleday); and *When Gravity Fails* by George Alec Effinger (Arbor House/Bantam Spectra).

• **Best Novella:** "The Blind Geometer" by Kim Stanley Robinson (Cheap St./Asimov's); "Fugue State" by John M. Ford

(*Under the Wheel*); "The Secret Sharer" by Robert Silverberg (Asimov's); "The Tiger Sweater" by Keith Roberts (F&SF); "The Unconquered Country" by Geoff Ryman (Allen & Unwin/Bantam Spectra); and "Witness" by Walter Jon Williams (*Wild Cards* #1).

• **Best Novelette:** "Buffalo Gals, Won't You Come out Tonight" by Ursula K. LeGuin (*Buffalo Gals*.../F&SF); "Dream Baby" by Bruce McAlister (*In the Field of Fire* Asimov's); "The Evening and the Morning and the Night" by Octavia E. Butler (*Omni*); "Flowers of Edo" by Bruce Sterling (Asimov's); "Rachel in Love" by Pat Murphy (Asimov's); and "Schwarzschild Radius" by Connie Willis (*The Universe*).

• **Best Short Story:** "Angel" by Pat Cadigan (Asimov's); "Cassandra's Photographs" by Lisa Goldstein (Asimov's); "The Faithful Companion at Forty" by Karen Joy Fowler (Asimov's); "Forever Yours, Anna" by Kate Wilhelm (*Omni*); "Kid Charlemagne" by Paul Di Filippo (*Amazing*); "Temple to a Minor Goddess" by Susan Shwartz

(*Amazing*); and "Why I Left Harry's All-Night Hamburgers" by Lawrence Watt-Evans (Asimov's).

Wild Cards, in which a novella nominee appeared, is a science-fiction collection involving an alternate universe with superheroes. Lawrence Watt-Evans, who has a short story nominated, is known to comics buffs for his former column "Rayguns, Elves, and Skin-Tight Suits" in *CBG*.

Sci Con set for fall

Sci Con 10 will be held Nov. 11-13 at the Holiday Inn Executive Center, Virginia Beach, Va.

The guest of honor will be David Brin. Artish guest of honor is David Mattingly. Bud Webster is the fan guest of honor. David Cherry will serve as toastmaster. Kelly Freas will also be present, and more guests will be announced later.

Sci Con is a general-interest science fiction convention with panels, readings, video presentations, costume contest, gaming, art show, and more. Memberships are \$15 until Sept. 30; \$20 at the door. Huckster tables (limit of two; includes one membership per table) are \$50 each until May 31; \$60 until Sept. 30; and \$75, if still available, thereafter.

To pre-register or for more information (include SASE), write to Sci Con 10, Dept. CBG, P.O. Box 9434, Hampton, Va. 23670.

The first issue of the *Willow* three-part limited series re-presenting the Jo Duffy and Bob Hall adaptation of the George Lucas film ships April 26. Issue #1 didn't make it onto the Marvel order form, but retailers can order it through their distributors. Each issue of *Willow* will be a 32-page comic book with ads, cover-priced at \$1.

Willow #2 will ship May 31 and will be included on the June Marvel order form.

Flashback: 15 years ago

The final *Terry and the Pirates* strip is published Feb. 25, 1973. Created by Milton Caniff in 1934, the last installment is produced by George Wunder and George Evans.

—Greg W. Myers

Check your LABEL

Consult the label on page 1 of this issue of *CBG*. The month and year your subscription ends can be found on the second line of the label. These are followed by the actual week of expiration. (Weeks 1-5 come in January, weeks 6-9 come in February, etc.)

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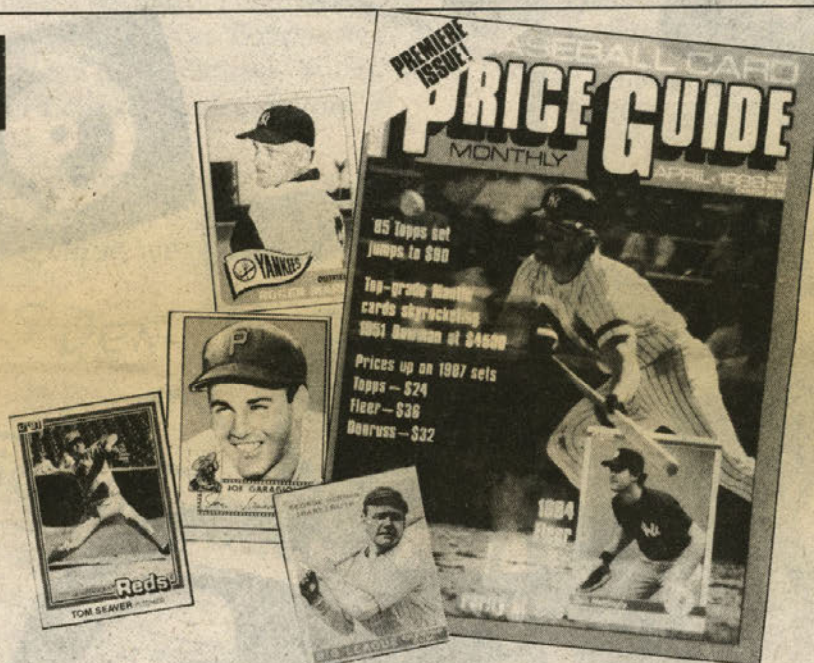
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Eclipse Comics

Celebrating 10 years of publishing diversity

By David Allen

Willie Mays is one of Dean Mullaney's heroes and, in a way, the baseball player epitomizes the company Mullaney co-founded, Eclipse Comics. "Willie Mays taught me to do the very best you can and do as many things as you can as well as you can," Mullaney said.

Eclipse's publishing line is one of the most diverse in the industry. Eclipse publishes straight super-hero comics like *Strike!* and *Miraclemans*; adventure-hero comics like *Airboy* and *Scout*; fantasy in *The Dreamery*; science fiction in *Fusion*; historical adventure like *The Legend of Kamui*; humor one-shots like *The Amazing Cynicalman* and *Walt Kelly's Christmas Classics*; and a few that defy easy categorization, like *California Girls* and *Tales of the Beanworld*.

Eclipse, Mullaney said, is the third-largest comics publisher in the direct sales market. He said that Eclipse's sales top a half-million copies per month and that Eclipse publishes more than 20 titles a month.

During the company's 10-year existence, Mullaney said, he and, later, Editor-in-Chief Catherine Yronwode, pioneered or helped pioneer concepts like creators rights to their characters and creators' royalties. He said they have innovated a number of formats, prices, publishing frequencies, and paper stocks.

Eclipse is a large "independent" which has managed to stay independent of corporate ownership or funding while setting up business where Mullaney and Yronwode wanted to, in Forestville, Calif., population 1500.

"We can publish what we choose to publish," Mullaney said. Projects the company takes on "may be marginal financially, but artistically have a lot of merit. We don't have to justify ourselves to a board of directors."

What became Eclipse Comics was an idea comics fan Mullaney had in 1976 to publish "a prose short story book — a trade paperback — with short stories by Don McGregor, Steve Gerber, Steve Englehart, and Doug Moench. They were the four writers I admired most and the ones who were having more restraints placed on their work than they wanted." The stories by those then-Marvel Comics writers would be illustrated by P. Craig Russell and other artists, in Mullaney's plan.

Mullaney had been a comics reader since 1958, when he was 4 and bought a *Batman* or *Detective Comics* issue that featured giant blenders. "They were so fascinating that I wanted to read the words to find out what was going on with those giant blenders," Mullaney said. "Dick Sprang taught me how to read."

Later, Mullaney was a prolific letter-writer to comics, particularly Marvel. Growing up in Staten Island, N.Y., he was able to go to comics conventions and meet — and befriend — the New York professionals whose work he liked best, including McGregor, Russell, and Gerber.

He corresponded with fans Kim Thompson, Willie Blyberg, Ralph Macchio, Mary Jo Duffy, and Mark Gruenwald. He later roomed with Gruenwald and they published two issues of *Omniverse*, a fanzine which mostly dwelt on Marvel continuity. With Thompson, Mullaney indexed all Marvel issues from 1961 on.

Gruenwald was hired at Marvel, and that information eventually influenced what ultimately became *The Official Handbook of the Marvel Uni-*

verse.

Mullaney said he was working as an accountant on Wall Street when he went for a visit to McGregor's Bowery apartment in March 1977. McGregor had a drawing on his wall of a new character he'd created, Sabre, drawn by Paul Gulacy, best known for his work on Marvel's *Master of Kung Fu*. At Mullaney's prompting, McGregor described the character, which didn't have a publishing home. "Four hours later," Mullaney said, "I left deciding that I was going to try to get the money together to publish it."

"I had no idea that Dean even

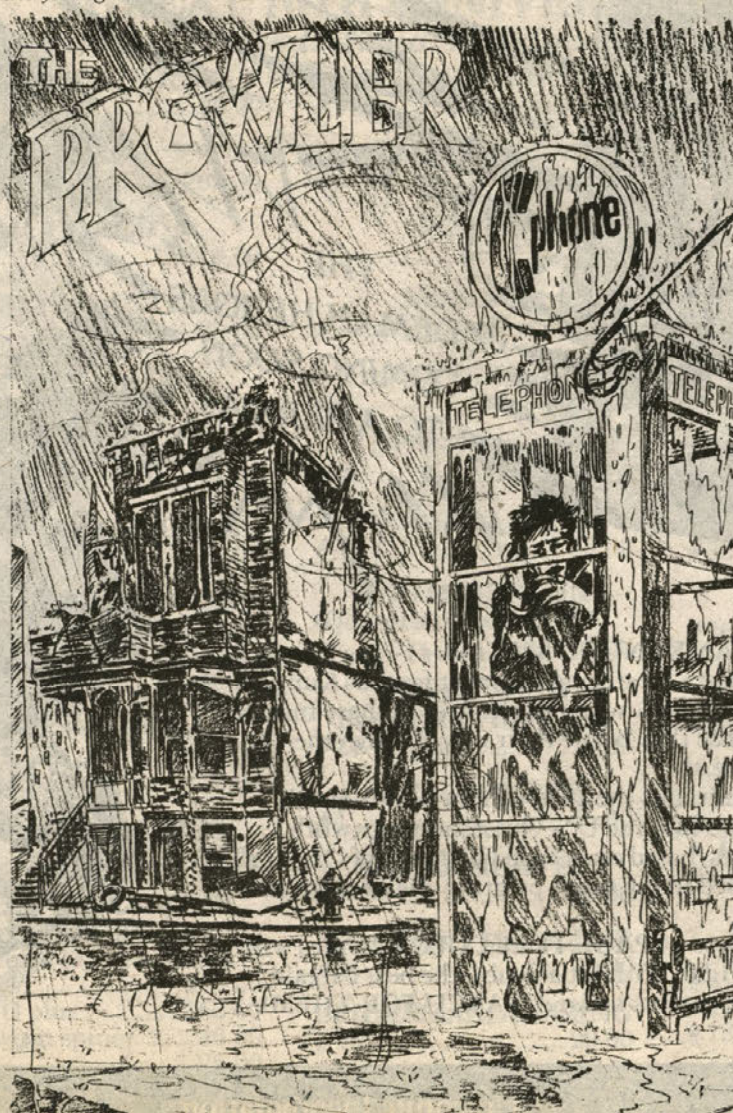
wanted to start a comic book company," McGregor said of that meeting. "Dean gave me a call a couple of days later and asked if he could publish Sabre."

"I was looking for a place where I could do a character and strip where I wouldn't have to face the restrictions that were in the traditional comics market," McGregor said. So he pressed Mullaney for copyright ownership and for having the "final say" on creative decisions. Mullaney agreed on both points. McGregor then told him, "Well, I guess you'd better come over here — we'd better talk!"

There were other alternative



Strike comes upon the fight among three thugs, Black Angel, and the young Prowler — and lends a hand.



In the "Prowler" back-up to *Total Eclipse* #1, Scott Kida alerts his mentor, Leo Kragg (the original Prowler) of the danger he has encountered in the lead story.

comics being published, like *Star*Reach*, McGregor said, but "There was very little where you were just taking a single character out there and putting it out in the market place." As a model, he pointed out the Ed Aprill comic strip collections to Mullaney, saying, "Take a look at these. I think that's the kind of collection we should do."

Gulacy and Marvel letterer Annette Kawecky were brought into the project, even though it was a risky venture. McGregor said he told Mullaney that Gulacy would have to be paid more than his usual Marvel page rates "because he was working for a company that didn't exist."

McGregor said he believed in the project so much that he took

a pay cut from his Marvel rate in exchange for a larger royalty later. "I was living on about \$3000 a year," he said. "I can laugh about that now. I wasn't laughing about it then."

Mullaney talked to his brother, Jan, a rock guitarist who had just finished a tour. "I figured it would take \$2000 to publish a comic," Dean Mullaney said, admitting it was an underestimation. So he asked Jan to loan him the money and be partners in the business with him. Jan agreed.

Dean didn't know the first thing about publishing, but said his motto has always been, "Ask the man who does it." So he called Gruenwald, who referred

(ECLIPSE, Page 22)

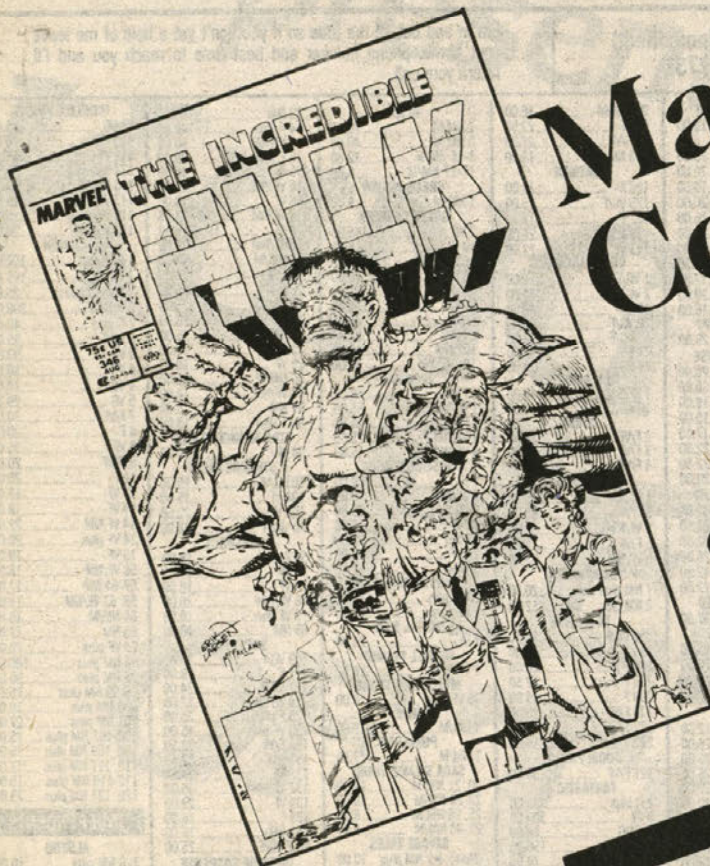


Black Angel is injured and taken away for help.



Scott begs for Leo's help, but Leo must refuse, because it's time for him to take the rejuvenating dragon's blood. The "Prowler" back-up was written by Timothy Truman and pencilled by Brent Anderson. It will be inked by Mike Dringenberg.

(This concludes CBG's preview of *Total Eclipse*)



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ECLIPSE
(From Page 20)
him to Denis Kitchen, an underground publisher in Wisconsin, where Gruenwald grew up. Mullaney called Kitchen and "asked him basic questions about publishing," like the names of distributors and the amount of discounts they got.

He also called Jim Steranko, a former Marvel artist who had gone on to publish a magazine called *Comicscene*, later *Mediascene*, still later *Prevue*.

Mullaney went to a printing plant, asked how printing was done and watched the whole process. He decided to have the book published with metal plates, on 100 lb. vellum paper,

with quality printing, and in black-and-white. There were problems and delays, such as when Gulacy's first six pages of art were lost — he had sent them first class instead of insured mail, a mistake he didn't repeat. A promotional poster for the book was published in December 1977, and Gruenwald designed the first Eclipse Enterprises logo.

Mullaney took the finished art (ECLIPSE, Page 24)

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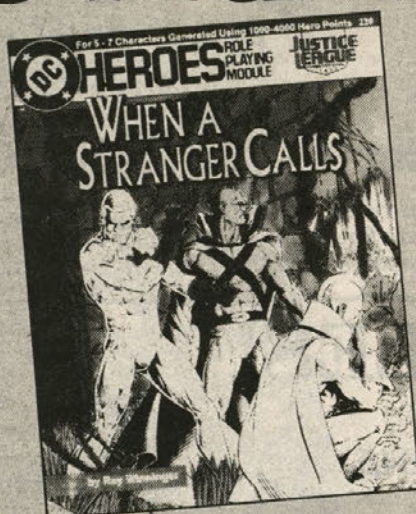
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**ECLIPSE**

(From Page 22)

to Phil Seuling, owner of Seagate, the major East Coast distributor at the time. "Phil stood up and started screaming, 'No one's going to pay \$6 for a comic book! I don't care how beautiful the art is!'" But Seuling placed an order after the book came out, in August 1978, and Bud Plant also placed an order. Mullaney said he sold a lot of copies at conventions and by mail order, but

"Without Phil Seuling and Bud Plant, it never would have gotten off the ground."

The print run of 5000 sold out within three months. A 3000-copy second printing also sold out. The book sold in a half-dozen countries in Europe, was reprinted in comic book form in August 1982, and published as a continuing series until August 1985. This summer, a 10th anniversary edition will be published, with a new painted cover by Gulacy.

McGregor said *Sabre* was ground-breaking in several ways. The lead character was a swash-buckling hero in a future ravaged by nuclear war and ruled by a totalitarian government — and he was black. "Putting *Sabre* in an Errol Flynn-type role was another way of breaking down barriers," McGregor said.

Did Mullaney think the project would be a success? "I was confident from the very beginning," he said. "I felt as a reader I knew what readers wanted."

He also knew what creators wanted, he said. "I knew they were getting shafted by the major companies at the time. Their work was getting butchered editorially, they were getting their copyrights taken away from them, and their work was being printed on toilet paper."

Sabre was planned as a one-shot, but "part way through that venture, I discovered how much I enjoyed publishing," Mullaney said.

Eclipse's second project was

the January 1979 publication of a collection of cartoonist Fred Hembeck's work for *The Buyer's Guide for Comic Fandom*, a fanzine which later became *Comics Buyer's Guide*, for which "Mark Gruenwald and I did color separations for the front and back covers," Mullaney said.

The next graphic album was *Night Music* by P. Craig Russell, known for his work on Marvel's *War of the Worlds* series with McGregor. "Do whatever you want, and we'll publish it," Russell said Mullaney told him. The album, published in November 1979, was a collection of science fiction and symbolist stories. It had the first use of the Eclipse colophon, designed by letterer Tom Orzechowski, who has also rendered many of Eclipse's title logos and the company's 10th anniversary banner.

There were fewer hassles with the second graphic album. Mullaney had it printed in Pennsylvania (*Sabre* had been printed in Georgia) "so I could oversee the whole project." What did printers think of printing expensive comic books? "All printers like paying customers," he laughed.

But sometimes being a paying customer wasn't enough. The third album, *Detectives, Inc.* by McGregor and Marshall Rogers, was published two months late because the printing company objected to a lesbian sex scene. "The printer wanted to run it, but the press people refused," Mullaney said. So another printer nearby ran the book, in

(ECLIPSE, Page 26)

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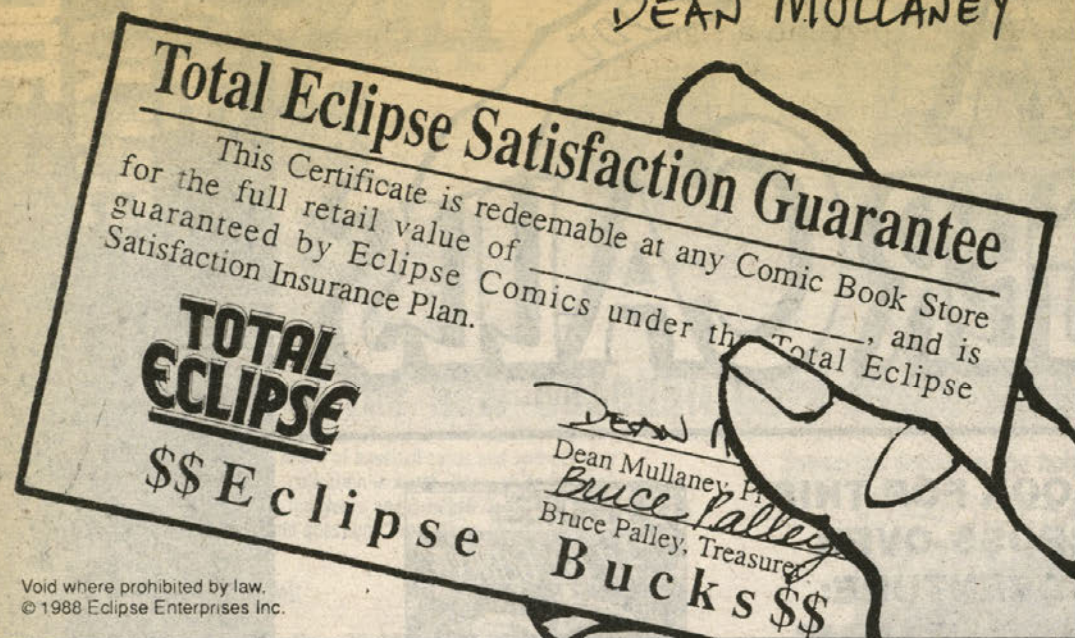
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DEAN MULLANEY



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Eclipse Distribution Manager Sean Deming (left) shows the proper shadow-picture finger gestures for a pair of turkeys crossing the street to Eclipse's amazed publisher, Dean Mullaney (right).

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Black & white company breaks color barrier

Eternity joins publishers' top five.

According to Capital City Distribution's market share list for March, Eternity Comics was the fifth largest publisher in the comic book direct market, bumping Comico, the Comic Company, to number six.

For the past two years the only publishers that have held the top five spots have been Comico, DC, Eclipse, First, and Marvel. Many articles and reports about the industry have made reference to the top two (Marvel and DC) and the middle three (Comico, Eclipse, and First) because of this stability at the top of the direct-sales market.

"We hope that in future references to the top publishers in the comics market, industry analysts should seriously consider using information and trends from the top six publishers," said Eternity publisher David W. Olbrich. "We expect that 1988 is going to be a great year for us, considering both the titles we are currently publishing and those that we have in development."

Olbrich added that this change in rank is even more important because Eternity is almost exclusively a black-and-white publisher and that in March solicited no

graphic novels or other product more expensive than its standard \$1.95 cover price. "This should finally put to rest in the minds of the fans, the retailers, and the distributors that black-and-white comics are inferior to color comics."

"This creates a situation where there are two publishers at the top (Marvel and DC), each with market shares which will consistently range from 25% to 40%. Below them will be four companies, 'The Middle Four' if you will, that will consistently have market shares from 7% to 15%. Beneath them will be a great sea of other pub-

lishers who may or may not drastically change their market share rank from month to month."

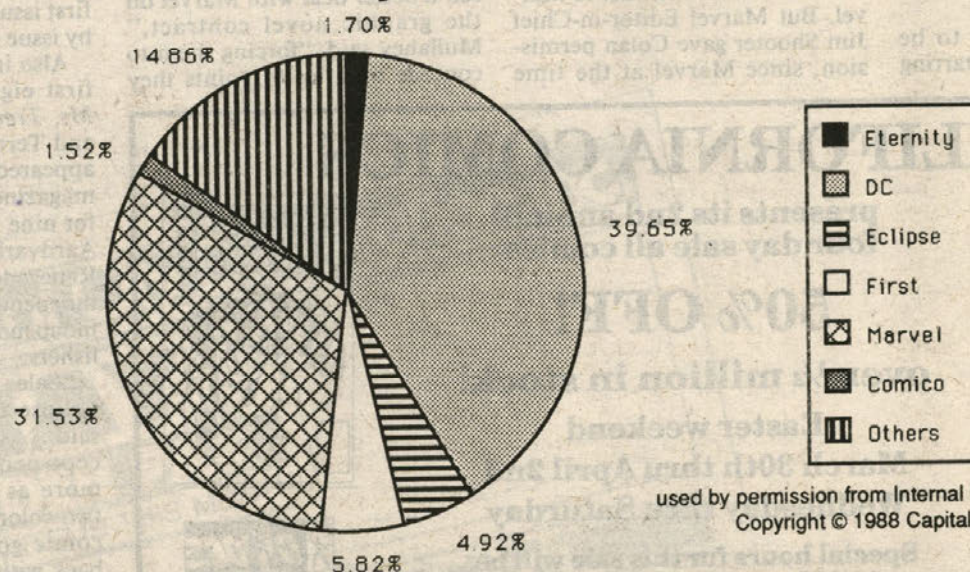
In one month's time, from February to March, Eternity's market share increased a full half a percent, a significant increase considering that the market share available to publishers outside the previous top five has been below 18% since October 1987.

Scott Rosenberg, president of Eternity's parent company, Malibu Graphics, Inc., said that he expects the company to have a smaller market share in April and May. "But if things continue to go the way they have, we

expect to permanently be in the top six by the end of the summer of 1988," he said.

"All of our efforts to improve our line of comics are starting to pay off," said Eternity editor-in-chief Chris Ulm. "We have some titles that everyone knows and others that people are just starting to discover. What is exciting for us is to see the positive response that we are getting from retailers who are starting to order our comics in increasing numbers. That says to us that more of their customers have been asking for and buying Eternity's comics."

TOP SIX PUBLISHERS FOR MARCH by market share



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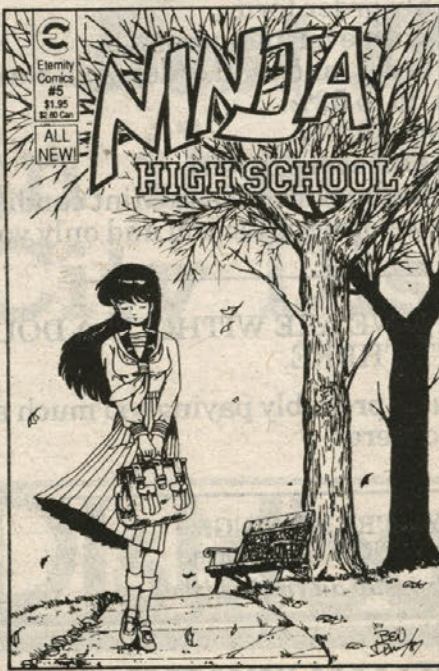
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ETERNITY COMICS
Home Of The Rising Stars

ECLIPSE
(From Page 24)

July 1980.

Copies of the book were taken to a Chicago convention by Mullaney and McGregor, and "The first person on the face of the planet to buy a copy was Larry Marder," Mullaney said. Marder told Mullaney that story recently — "I didn't know him then," Mullaney said. Marder is the creator of *Tales of the Beanworld*, which Eclipse distributes.

When *Detectives, Inc.* was initiated, so was *Stewart the Rat*. The character was created by Steve Gerber right after leaving Marvel.

The lead feature was to be Stewart, with a back-up starring

"Vera of Vegas," an unnamed chorus girl from a two-page spread in *Howard the Duck* #16, the "album issue." At the end of that issue, Gerber had written a phony letter which rhetorically asked, "And when is the Las Vegas chorus girl going to get her own book?" She's still waiting, because Stewart eventually took over the whole graphic album.

After attempts by Will Meugniot and Tom Sutton on the character, Gerber and Mullaney thought they'd ask Gene Colan to do the art. They didn't hold out much hope, since Colan was under exclusive contract to Marvel. But Marvel Editor-in-Chief Jim Shooter gave Colan permission, since Marvel at the time

wasn't publishing any competing graphic albums. "Dean and I about fainted," Gerber said.

Mullaney said that there was such a rush for Glynis Wein to finish coloring the cover that "Steve was holding a hairdryer on the artwork to get it to dry." The book was published in November 1980, but the printing was botched with too-heavy inks and had to be rerun.

Jim Starlin's *The Price* was the next effort, published in October 1981.

"Jim used the negotiations with us on *The Price* to get himself a better deal with Marvel on the graphic novel contract," Mullaney said, "forcing them to concede on a lot of points they

hadn't formerly conceded to creators," including royalties.

After five graphic albums, Mullaney said, he decided "I want to publish a periodical, as a way of expanding our audience, and have a wide variety of styles represented under one cover." *Eclipse, the Magazine*, with a cover by Gulacy, a logo by Orzechowski, a "look" co-designed by Richard Bruning and Mullaney, and stories by Starlin, Englehart and Rogers, Russell, Howard Cruse, Trina Robbins, and others, was published in May 1981 at a cover price of \$2.95. Sales were 25,000 on that first issue, eventually leveling off by issue #8 to just under 20,000.

Also in that first issue was the first eight-page installment of *Ms. Tree* by Max Allan Collins and Terry Beatty. The character appeared in all eight issues of the magazine, then in a color comic for nine issues before moving to Aardvark-Vanaheim and, later, Renegade Press. It was the first independent comic to prove its independence by switching publishers.

"Sales dipped steadily" in the Eclipse color comic, Mullaney said. "As it turns out, it's a concept people respond to much more as a black-and-white or two-color." He tried to keep the comic going by filling out the back with "The Scythe," a story he wrote himself to keep the book's costs down. *Ms. Tree* "is still a fabulous character, as proven by the fact that it's still successful seven years later," Mullaney said, adding, "I still read it."

In the magazine, Mullaney was able to publish a diverse amount of material: "Coyote" by Englehart and Rogers; "Dope," a Trina Robbins adaptation of a Sax Rohmer novel; and work by Charles Vess, Harvey Pekar, and Hunt Emerson.

Another regular feature was "Ragamuffins," about children growing up in the 1950s. Scripts were by McGregor and the art, by Gene Colan, was reproduced from his pencils. Though the stories can be faulted for melodrama, the series is Mullaney's "favorite, ever" Eclipse work. They were later reprinted in a color comic.

The magazine eventually became a 48-page, Baxter-paper comic book called *Eclipse Monthly*, with continuing series modeled on Golden Age comics. By the later issues of the magazine, "the mail was very much against the anthology format," Mullaney said. "I think that was a shame."

The first comic book Eclipse published was *Destroyer Duck*, a benefit done without profit to help Gerber's lawsuit against Marvel over the rights to *Howard the Duck*. Several fundraising ideas were floated by Gerber, including a \$5 membership in his legal defense fund, which would include a membership card and a piece of art that would show "a picture of a horror mansion called 'The House of Ideas.' Through the door, you could see torture racks and on them were artists, who were

(ECLIPSE, Page 28)

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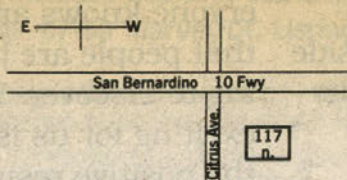
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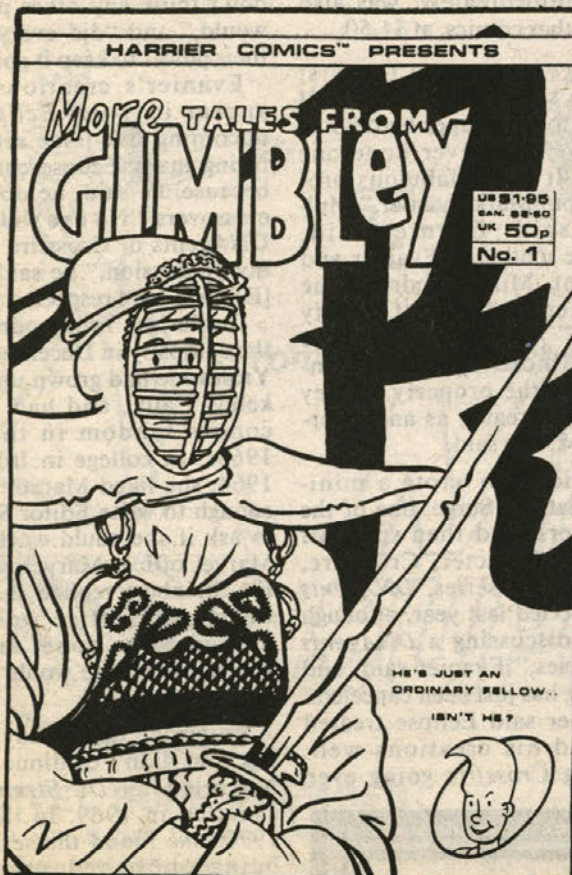
Eclipse Comics Editor-in-Chief Catherine Yronwode sits at her desk.

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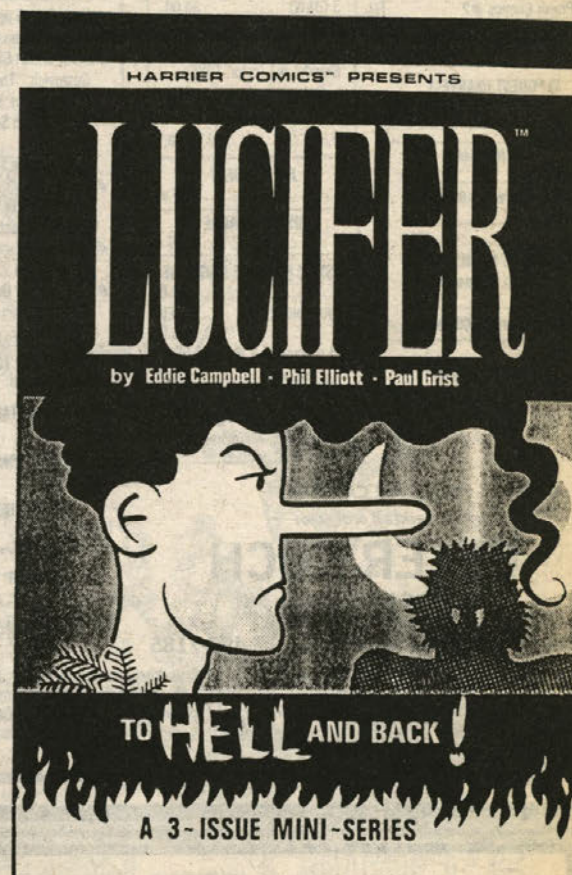
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ECLIPSE (From Page 26)

labeled [with their names]. Behind them was a man holding a whip — Obviously, this was Steve's idea, not mine," Mullaney said, laughing.

Gerber then wanted to publish a limited edition of 60 books, for \$100 each; Mullaney suggested they publish 60,000 books at \$1 each.

Destroyer Duck #1, published February 1982 with script by Gerber and art by Jack Kirby and Alfredo Alcalá, and backups that included the first appearance of Groo by Sergio Aragones, sold 80,000 and enabled Gerber "to continue the lawsuit to a successful settlement," Mullaney said.

Gerber said he had been nervous about approaching Kirby for the book. He knew the artist from their work together at Ruby-Spears animation studio, but had to figure out "how to approach the King of Comics, basically, to do a 20-page story for me, for free," Gerber said. But, Gerber said, when he and Mark Evanier presented the proposal, Kirby said, "Gee, that sounds like fun."

Destroyer Duck #1 was successful enough that the series was continued, something distributors had already been told would happen. "We had to promise them a series," Gerber said, because "distributors don't want to handle a one-shot," at

least in those days. The series lasted seven issues, and Gerber now says, "I never felt I got quite the handle on it I should have. As a one-shot, it would have been a classic."

Eclipse then made *Sabre* a series, and followed with *Ms. Tree* and *Eclipse Monthly*. Soon, all were published on Baxter paper and used laser-scanned color, putting the printing quality above newsstand comics. The price, unfortunately, was also above other comics, at \$1.50.

DNAgents became the first Eclipse super-hero comic. "I wanted to try a super-hero book, since we had never done one before. It was a fabulous proposal from Mark Evanier," Mullaney said. Evanier said, "Eclipse made us [Evanier and his agent, Mike Friedrich] the best offer, in terms of quality control." And, he said, Eclipse showed more "personal concern" for the property. "They wanted to treat it as an important book," he said.

Evanier also wrote a mini-series starring Surge, one of the characters, and then spun off another character, *Crossfire*, into his own series. *DNAgents* was canceled last year, although "we're discussing a *DNAgents* mini-series," Evanier said, and *Crossfire* has just been canceled.

Evanier said Eclipse treated him and his creations well. Keeping *Crossfire* going even

eclipse

This was the first Eclipse logo, used in the *Sabre* graphic album. It was designed by Mark Gruenwald. TM Eclipse Enterprises Inc.

though sales weren't good "was a gesture of an enormous commitment to quality," he said. "They stuck with it at a time when I don't think any other publisher would," and "did everything in their power to keep it going."

Evanier's creations won't appear in *Total Eclipse*, the upcoming five-issue series featuring many Eclipse characters, because, he said, he doesn't like crossovers. "No one will ever do *DNAgents* or *Crossfire* without my permission," he said. "They [Eclipse] have respected that."

Catherine Yronwode joined the company in December 1981. Yronwode had grown up in Berkeley, Calif., and had been in comics fandom in the early 1960s. In college in Illinois in 1964, she liked Marvel Comics enough to write Editor Stan Lee to ask if she could work in the Marvel office. Marvel secretary Flo Steinberg replied that there wasn't any office work that needed to be done, and that staying in college would be better.

Yronwode didn't stay in college and didn't continue buying Marvels after *Dr. Strange* was canceled in 1969. In the mid-1970s she found the series was being published again and rejoined fandom as a writer to letter columns and in fanzines. In her column for *The Buyer's Guide for Comic Fandom*, "Fit to Print," she wrote reviews of comics and met comics pros over the phone and at conventions. Mullaney and Yronwode met and fell in love, and she began assistant-editing the company's books. The first project she had was coloring the back cover of *Destroyer Duck* #1.

She also helped with production work on *Eclipse, the Magazine*. Bruning had left as co-art director, so Mullaney and Yronwode did production under a variety of pseudonyms listed on the contents pages. Mullaney, who at this time was finally able to do his Eclipse work as a full-time job, went to Willow Springs, Mo., in March 1982 to live with Yronwode, and the two helped each other on their individual projects. Mullaney sometimes ghostwrote the news section of Yronwode's column, and she occasionally ghostwrote the Eclipse editorial page, "Notes from Surf City."

"People didn't know how much we were working together at all. We kept it quiet," Yronwode said. As for the company, "We lied to everybody and told them Eclipse was still in New York, until we moved to Columbia, Mo."

When Jan Mullaney got more involved in his music career, Dean took over as publisher and Yronwode became editor. The company then moved to California, locating in Guerneville, 90 minutes north of San Francisco. The first office was in a converted train station, and the second in a house that had been converted to office space. "We kept having to get more office space because we kept getting more people working for us," she said.

The first was Sean Deming, who started as an apprentice in February 1985 and was hired in June to work full-time. When he started, Deming worked two days a week, while also going to school and working in his home town, Kingsburg. He made an eight-hour commute so he could work for Eclipse.

On his second day, Deming

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ECLIPSE

(From Page 28)

said, Mullaney and Yronwode told him: "We like your work. You are now assistant editor of the anthology [comic] books." Those comic books, *Alien Encounters* and *Tales of Terror*, featured science fiction and horror, respectively. They followed in the wake of Bruce Jones's comic books for Pacific Comics, *Alien Worlds* and *Twisted Tales* (which Jones and Eclipse recently revived).

Pacific was not only a distributor but also a comics publisher, of the Jones books and *The Rocketeer* by Dave Stevens, among others. By the summer of 1984, "Everyone in the industry knew that Pacific Comics was in trouble," Mullaney said. So that fall, he said, he called Pacific Publisher Steve Schanes and "told him I was interested in buying most of the comics" whose work was completed but which hadn't been published. "He needed the money, so I grabbed my checkbook and got on a plane," Mullaney said.

Eclipse ended up publishing more than a dozen of Pacific's

comics, doubling Eclipse's output. The two companies were "virtually the same size," and "after swallowing them almost whole, we were 50% larger," Mullaney said.

The spring when Deming started was "the point when Eclipse really started to grow by leaps and bounds," Deming said.

Mullaney said the next big step for the company as *Miracleman*. "Pacific Comics had plans to publish *Marvelman*, but couldn't reach an agreement with Alan [Moore, the writer] as to the name," which would have to be changed so as not to conflict with Marvel Comics.

"*Miracleman*" was arrived at and the first issue, published in August 1985, was printed on Mando paper instead of Baxter and was priced at 75 cents, only 15 cents more than Marvel and DC then charged. The series, which began by printing the original British stories by Moore and then publishing new work by him, "was, and still is, our most popular comic book," Mullaney said.

(ECLIPSE, Page 32)



Eclipse Editor Letitia Glozer works on a script for *Mai, the Psychic Girl*.

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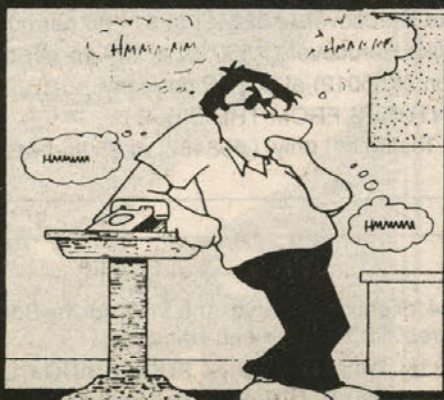


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ECLIPSE (From Page 30)

And then came the flood. Rain had been falling in Guerneville for days before the weekend of Feb. 14-15, 1986, and, in the space of those 48 hours, the small town, located next to the Russian River, was flooded by the overflowing river. Yronwode, Mullaney, and Deming stayed at a Catholic church with other residents of the town while the Red Cross prepared food taken from the local Safeway and people huddled with a few blankets around altar candles. Eventually, National Guard helicopters carried everyone out to nearby Santa Rosa.

"We had an American Express card," Yronwode said. "We went down to the mall in our mud-soaked clothes, went to Macy's, and charged some clothes."

They rented a motel room and had Federal Express reroute parcels to the motel. When the water receded in Guerneville, they went back to the office. All of them lost most of their per-

sonal possessions in the flood, but the company was never in danger of folding, Yronwode said. Very little work was actually in the office at the time. The only project to suffer, she said, was the *Art of Steve Ditko* book, where valuable fanzines and research material were destroyed. Also lost were some film negatives and all the back issue stock at that time.

Sales of back issues help the company financially, and provide what Yronwode called "a service" to readers in rural areas not served by comics shops, or where shops are new and don't have issues in stock. In its ads, Eclipse advises fans to check with local comics shops first before ordering, and, she said, Eclipse tries to price the comic books so as not to undercut any retail store.

The next milestone for the company was its revival of the Hillman characters from the 1940s and 1950s, most notably Airboy, Valkyrie, and The Heap. The characters resurfaced in the summer of 1986 in *Airboy*, a bi-

weekly comic book which was joined on the schedule by *The New Wave*, a super-hero team. Eclipse, which had often had problems with getting books published on time, made every deadline with these two titles, despite the rigorous schedule.

More recently, Eclipse began publishing a line of Japanese comics. Comico had been publishing Robotech comics, with Japanese-style art, but Eclipse published actual Japanese comic books translated into English, beginning with *The Legend of Kamui* and *Mai the Psychic Girl*, and later adding *Area 88* and *Xenon*, with more to come.

For *Total Eclipse*, slated for spring release, Eclipse hired Marv Wolfman as scripter. He said he finds the series different from his work on *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, a multi-part series which featured most of DC's characters.

"There are no setups for cross-over books," although a few will be done by other writers "on their own," he said. Also, Wolfman said, there are very few lead-ins from other books, making the series "almost entirely self-contained."

Wolfman said the Eclipse characters aren't as well-known as the DC characters, "although they are all very good." Wolfman called *The Prowler* "one of my two or three favorite adventure characters" and said he is "always surprised when I find a lot of fans don't look at them [independents], and don't think anyone besides Marvel and DC can do adventure hero stuff."

"All independents suffer from a lack of exposure," he said, "and if my name as a writer can alert people to the fine work already appearing in those books, that's great."

Other upcoming Eclipse projects include a collection of P. Craig Russell's opera stories, slated for summer release; a continuation of *Real War Stories*; and a line of nonfiction comics. Eclipse comics are sold in the Waldenbooks chain and will soon be in other chains, Mullaney said. They will never be on newsstands because sales there are declining, he said.

The Eclipse offices are behind the house Mullaney and Yron-

(ECLIPSE, Page 34)

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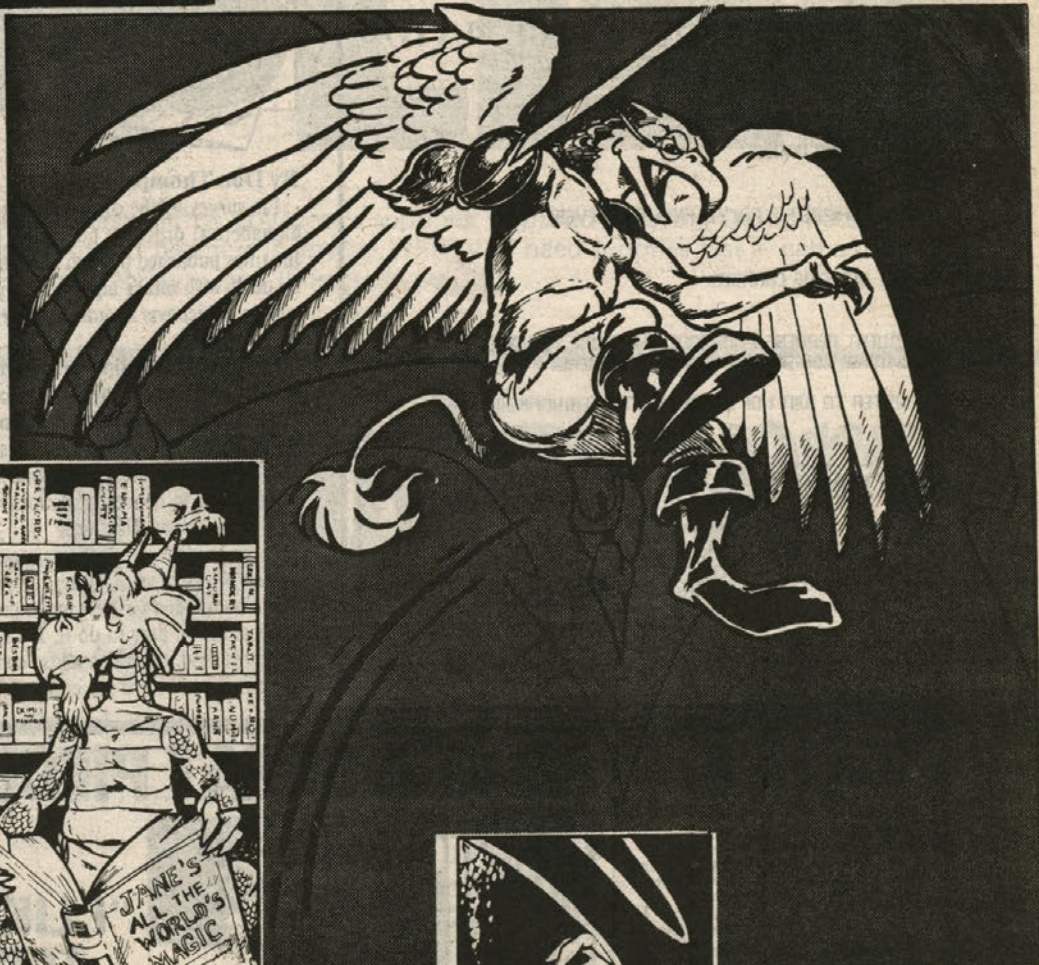
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By Don Thompson

I'm surveying the comics companies in alphabetical order by publishing name; the titles published by each company will be dealt with either alphabetically or in groups, whichever seems appropriate to me at the time.

I give grades according to a system used by Mrs. Litzinger when I was in first grade: A means excellent, B means very good, C means average, D means poor, and F means dreadful. Plus and minus will be used to denote gradations within these broader classifications.

These grades are meant as a guide to readers. If you write, draw, or publish comic books, don't expect me to give you free lessons on how to do it. It's not my job. Every bad writer demands "constructive criticism," which is a crock; if I point

out that your \$20 bill is counterfeit, I am not obligated to replace it with a genuine one. If you want lessons on writing, enroll in a course or — far better — read some good books so you can at least see what can be done, if not how to do it.

The person to whom these reviews are addressed is the person with limited money to spend who wants to be steered toward the good and away from the bad. The person who disagrees with me a majority of the time should do the opposite of what I recommend (except in the case of this sentence).

I am not going to write long essays on why something is good or why it isn't — not too often, anyway. I hope. These are subjective evaluations, with a minimal percentage of my limited space and time spent explaining the whys and wherefores.

Before I get into the "F" file, let me backtrack to keep current with the companies I've already covered. I really will try to keep it brief.

However, before I get into that, I have something else to take care of.

Triad

• Norman Abramoff, whose publishing company is called Triad, has grown impatient and asked that I say something about his company a little earlier than would be the case in the normal

alphabetical scheme of things. Triad publishes *The Honeymooners* (\$2), a color comic book based on the Jackie Gleason TV series. The comic-book series is set in the '50s and does about as good a job of catching the flavor of the original as could be done without the superb comic timing of Jackie Gleason and Art Carney.

The stories are typical of the TV series. Ralph gets named Raccoon of the Year by his lodge and, to look good for the occasion, attempts to dye his hair blacker and uses Alice's pink shoe dye by mistake (Norton's mistake, of course). Ralph and Ed win a trip to Hollywood where they mistake a space-invasion movie for the real thing. They are amusing situations and evoke some smiles.

Any comics store owner who wants to attract new customers would do very well indeed to put copies of *The Honeymooners* in his or her window — after all, the regular purchasers of comic books are already going to be coming in for their fix of mutants and super-doers, but *The Honeymooners* will bring in the people who have never read a comic book but would rather like to try, people who have watched every episode of the TV show until they can recite the dialogue ahead of the stars. And, while they're in the store, maybe they'll see some other familiar faces, such as Donald Duck or Mickey Mouse or Archie Andrews or Batman or Superman.

Think about it, retailers. This isn't going to alienate your regular customers and you stand to gain dozens of new customers.

Attitude Zone

• In my somewhat checkered career, I have worked in factories, served a hitch in the U.S. Army, and been a police reporter. I am, in short, familiar with all the profanities and obscenities English has to offer, along with various ones from other languages. They lost the power to shock me well before I had reached fifth grade, but their power to bore me has never slackened.

Partly as a result of this, I am put off by beginning writers who use profanity and obscenity as a shortcut to "realism." Which brings us to *Billy Nguyen*, a forth coming comic book with interesting amateur art and an extremely tiresome amateur script. After the first couple of pages, I just kept looking to see if any page did *not* have extraneous swearing on it. That quickly became as boring as the story, so I stopped reading entirely.

Blue Comet

• *Crime-Smasher Special Edition* #1 (\$1.80) is Roy and Dann Thomas' version of Fawcett's *Spy Smasher* (with the twin brother given him by the movie serial version tossed in). The art is crude — the subject of identical twins loses some of its impact when every young man in the story looks like every other young man in the story — and the spelling is sub-literate ("damb" for "damn," "your" for "you're," "suppost" for "supposed"), but the story of a framed ne'er-do-well taking over his successful but slimy brother's identity is pretty interesting. Grade: C-plus.

• *The New L.I.F.E. Brigade* #3 (\$1.80) is not new; it's the same fanzine-level super-hero group as in the first two issues. Grade: D.

• When the editors from the top six or seven comic-book companies look at art at conventions, most of it is quickly dismissed because the artist has just drawn a series of super-hero poses. The would-be professional comic-book artist has never learned to draw people who are wearing suits or casual

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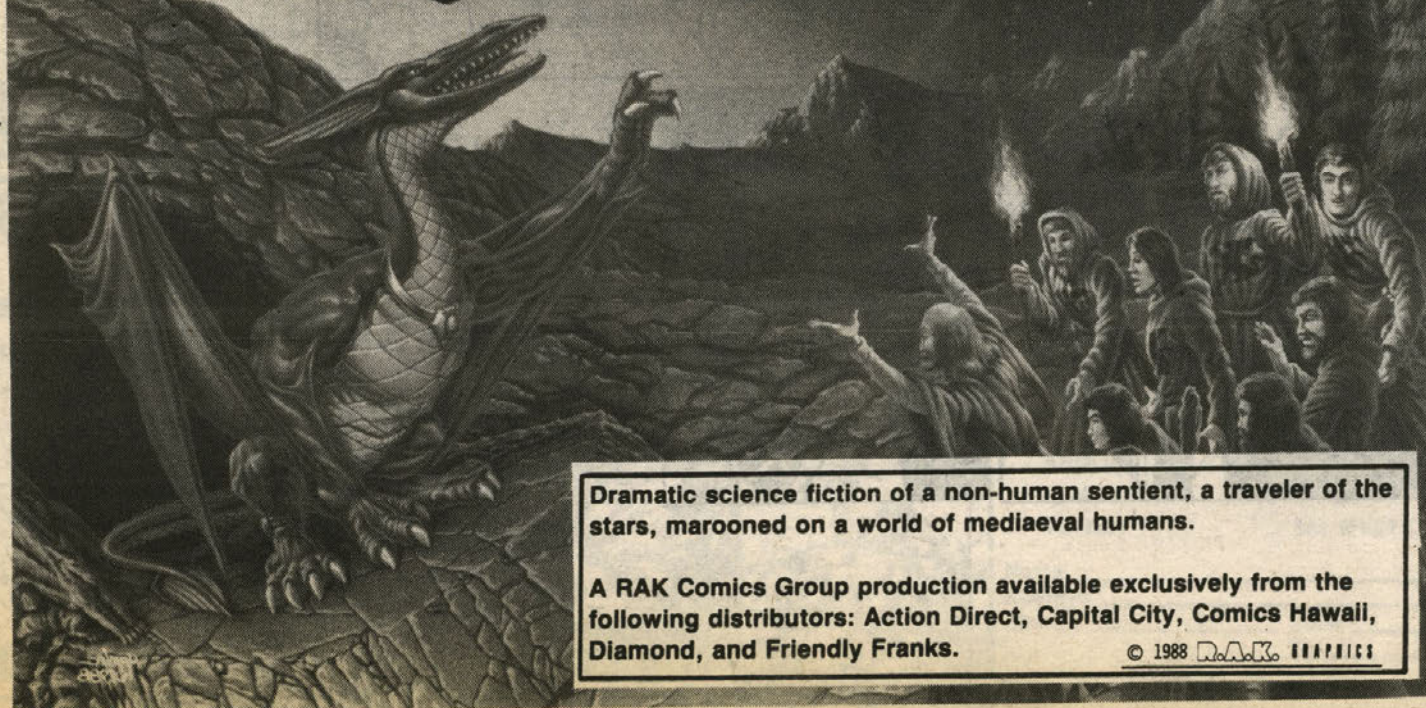
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COMICS

(From Page 36)

clothes — he can only draw people who are nude or wearing Spandex costumes. He cannot draw someone who is walking along the sidewalk or seated in a chair, just someone running, hitting, being hit, leaping, flying, or striking a comic-book pose. He cannot tell a story, with action flowing naturally from panel to panel, but merely draws a series of boring super-hero poses.

Roller Coasters Special Edition

#1 (\$1.80) has such art and it quickly becomes boring; nobody moves naturally, everybody just strikes a series of poses. All the art looks to have been taken from pages of comic books drawn by Neal Adams, without the panel-to-panel flow of Adams' work. Even the credits are a turn-off, with the writer given credit for "screenplay" — isn't that just too precious for words? Grade: D.

B-Movie Comics

• The Flame was a minor Golden Age Hero, and his son takes over in the elephant-titled *Eric Preston Is The Flame* (95c), a 16-page comic book which begins the character's first adventure. It's a thin comic book — which accounts for the low price — but it also has a pretty thin plot, with the hero and his compatriots barely getting started on their mission. Still, it's enjoyable. Grade: C-minus.

Blackthorne

• The last time I mentioned Blackthorne's 3-D comics, I missed a couple: *Bozo in 3-D* #1 and *Laurel & Hardy in 3-D* #1 (\$2.50 each). As always, if you don't like 3-D, you won't like these but they have some very nice 3-D effects for those who like 3-D. There is no reconciling the two extremes. The ones who like 3-D would flip for a 3-D Cynicalman comics; those who dislike it wouldn't buy one if the art were by Frank Frazetta, Dave Stevens, and Carl Barks. I come somewhere in the middle — I like to look through 3-D comics, but I find very few of them worth the effort of reading with colored lenses on over my regular glasses.

Comico

• I heartily recommend *Space Ghost* (\$3.50) for the excellent art by Steve Rude; the story is pedestrian and a pretty lame pedestrian at that. Several

months ago, Steve showed Maggie and me the sketchbook in which he worked out his character designs and which included pages and pages of sketches of real monkeys he drew from life at the zoo before attempting to portray Blip.

Don't dismiss the art in this book as simple TV cartoonery — look closely and see how accurately it portrays anatomy and motion with absolutely no wasted drawing. I wish the art had been used on a better story, but it's worth the high price of this comic for the art alone.

I also think the feature on Steve's sketchbook (which could have been 50 times longer — I've seen several of Steve's sketchbooks) illustrates the truth of the advice Bill Rotsler gives to young, would-be artists:

"Get a sketchbook and a pencil and draw everything you see for 20 years."

Few people take his advice and therefore they do not become artists. They don't want to be told it takes work and practice, they just want to know the magic word to put on their work which will make editors buy it.

I just wrote, and then deleted, several paragraphs about the need for learning a craft before you expect to earn a living at it. It's a waste of time. Those of you who are going to become successful artists are already working at learning how to draw and

the rest of you won't pay any attention to anything which suggests that work is involved.

So: The word is "Swordfish." Use it in good health.

Dark Horse

• There are some comic books which are merely variations of existing comic books — they can be described as being like *X-Men* or like *Batman* or like *Mad*. There are a few, a very few, which are unlike any other comic book there has ever been, comic books you have to see for yourself, like *Tales of the Beanworld* or *Zot!* or *Flaming Carrot*.

Flaming Carrot, starting with issue #18, will be a Dark Horse comic book. I don't know that there will be any great change in it with the new publisher, as far as the readers are concerned, though I hope it will appear more frequently (not a certainty, judging by Dark Horse's increasing presence on our "Late Titles" list). Issue #18 certainly is as much like previous issues of *Flaming Carrot* as it is unlike anything else. (I know that makes little sense, but readers of *Flaming Carrot* will know what I mean.)

Uncle Billy's mail-order bride is a wild woman, you see, and he let her out of her cage before he read the instructions, and she escaped, and only *Flaming Carrot* can control her because she thinks he's some sort of god, and the *Carrot* has to leave to track (COMICS, Page 44)

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Film Festival and Banquet

This year, RoVaCon will have the use of the whole civic center facility, which means that major events and films will be in the Community Room. We will also be able to have our banquet there and the next issue will have information about cost and menu. This will be an awards banquet, as more will have an opportunity to attend.

So far, our major films will include *Time Bandits*, *Strange Invaders*, *Future World* and *Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins*. There will be all-night videos and gaming at the civic center and the Sunday morning chapel will be held there as well.

Workshops and Panels

Again, we will have several workshops conducted by guest artists and authors. The workshops for writers include beginners (\$5.00), advanced (\$10.00), and a new segment for nonfiction writing or science journalism. We will also have our well known art workshop (\$15.00).

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With more room in the civic center this year, one half of the coliseum floor has been set aside for gaming. There will also be gaming panels and workshops off the gaming area near the dealers' section.

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Send to:

RoVaCon P.O. Box 117, Salem, VA 24153 For information by phone, call (703) 389-9400 after 5:00 p.m. No collect calls please.

RoVaCon's Largest Guest List

Julian May, SF and Fantasy writer will be Guest of Honor. Best known for her Pliocene series and her recently published *INTERVENTION* — also responsible for hundreds of books used in schools and libraries. She will be joined by her husband Ted Ditky.

Writers and artists confirmed so far and a sample of their works to look for (listed alphabetically) include:

Lisa Cantrell: *The Manse*
Hal Clemente: *Still River, Mission of Fravity*
Paul Dellinger: *Reporter, Columnist, Reviewer*
Bob Eggleton: *Artist*
Kelly Freas: *Artist*
Phil Hawkins: *Artist*
Jean Elizabeth Martin: *Artist*
Rebecca Ore: *Becoming Alien*
Richard Pini: *Elfquest, Wolfsong*
Richard and Janice Preston: *STAR*
Susan Schwartz: *Byzantium's Crown, The Woman of Flowers*
Christopher Stasheff: *The Warlock In Spite of Himself* series, *Her Majesty's Wizard*
Judith Tarr: *A Fall of Princes, The Hound and the Falcon* Series
Allen Wold: *Jewels of the Dragon, Wolfsong*

Good News for Fans-Collectors

There will be 100 tables for dealers with books, art, comics, movie materials, games, autographs and displays. Nearly half have already been sold.

Times of Note

Civic Center will open Friday, October 7:
5:00 p.m. for pre-registered
6:00 p.m. for registration at the door
Noon for dealers to set-up

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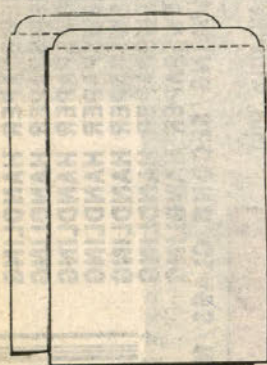
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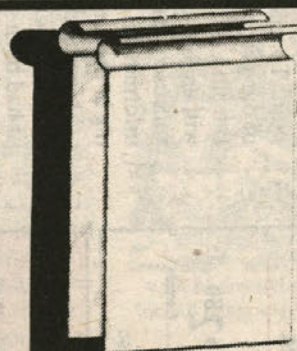


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62	Super Gold Size larger comics of early 40's	8 1/4 x 10 1/2	32.50	(2)	59.00	(4)	267.50	(20)	486.00	(42)
63	63 Magazine Size	9 x 11 1/2	36.50	(3)	66.50	(5)	350.00	(22)	546.00	(45)
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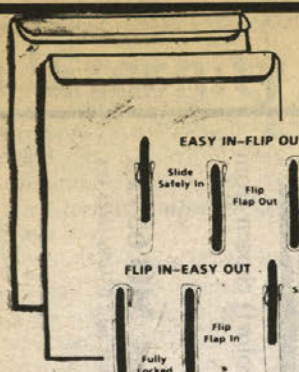
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162	Super Gold Size larger comics of early 40's	7 7/8 x 10 1/2	15.25	(3)	68.50	(5)	124.50	(9)
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163S	Small Magazines	8 5/8 x 11 1/4	16.75	(3)	74.75	(5)	136.00	(9)
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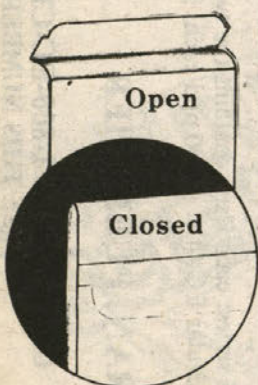
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258	Standard Size late 60's to present	7 1/4 x 10 1/2	35.75	(2)	65.00	(6)	294.00	(21)	534.50	(40)
261	Silver/Gold Size from 1940's to 1960's	7 3/4 x 10 1/2	37.50	(2)	67.50	(7)	306.50	(22)	557.00	(42)
262	Super Gold Size larger comics of early 40's	8 1/4 x 10 1/2	38.75	(3)	70.50	(9)	318.75	(24)	579.50	(44)
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814TLF	Super Gold Size larger comics of early 40's	8 1/4 x 11	46.50	(3)	84.50	(5)	384.00	(20)	698.00	(42)
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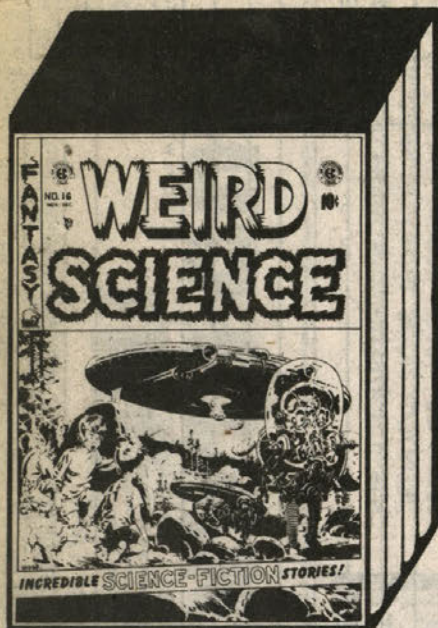
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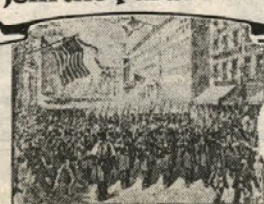
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Koplow Games



6

The TUBE DICE specialist

COMICS

(From Page 38)

down The Molar who has escaped from prison where he was serving time for stealing wood, so Uncle Billy has to ... Well, as you can see, things are about as much the same as they have ever been. There's even a brief but inexplicable cameo appearance by Cerebus. Grade: A.

• *Insane* (\$1.75) is a parody comic book (not a rarity) which is truly funny (which is a rarity). The Godzilla parody is mildly funny, the X-Men parody is less so, but the Grimjack parody is hilarious. Story and art on "Dim Jack" is by Hilary Barta (with a "script assist" by Stephen D.

Sullivan) and I am filled with admiration for it. The once fine art of parody has fallen on bad times with all the humorless parody attempts flooding the market; *Insane* could bring it back to the level it once attained. Grade: A.

DC Comics

• Into my hands, at approximately the same time, came three very different versions of *Action Comics*.

Action Comics #1 (50¢) is a 16-page reprint of the first Superman story along with a gallery of *Action Comics* covers. The price is reasonable and the story is packed like an egg with many of the elements that made the series a success: fast action, wish fulfillment, frustrated romance, humiliated bullies, and the exposure of villainy in high places.

Action Comics #600 (\$2.50) brings Superman's much-touted romance with Wonder Woman to a non-climactic climax (the phrase "much ado about nothing" comes to mind), Lois softens toward Clark and then hardens again, something finally goes wrong — very wrong — for Luthor, and Superman faces a major problem (about which, see my remarks about *Superman* #18, a few paragraphs further along). I'm pleased that there is a thread of continuity through the stories in this issue, but I'm disappointed that this issue is not complete in itself. The lead story is a continuation from preceding issues and the final "story" is continued in *Superman* #18 (not #19, as it says as the end of *Action* #600).

And then there is *Action Comics Weekly* #601, which I have read in photocopy form. In the Green Lantern story, Hal Jordan invades a foreign country and breaks its laws (the fact that the country is South Africa does not make Jordan's actions right) and Star Sapphire comes to Earth to wipe out the survivors of the Green Lantern Corps; Wild Dog goes back into action in a chapter which essentially is complete in this issue but will be continued; a new Secret Six is called together to replace the originals who have become incredibly aged; Superman appears in what is essentially a Sunday comics page — a very good Sunday comics page; Deadman interferes in a CIA drug-smuggling operation; Blackhawk becomes a wandering soldier of fortune at the end of World War II.

These chapters are brief but generally give an idea of what to expect from the series, except for the Blackhawk and Secret Six

chapters, in which the authors are still clearing their throats. *The Secret Six* was a complex and extremely interesting failed series, one I loved and one which I feel was simply ahead of its time. Instead of throwing out the entire series, as has been done here, I would rather that the original stories were reprinted and the story continued to its conclusion (one member of the group is secretly the group's leader and only one member was eliminated from suspicion before the original series ended).

I didn't much care for the Green Lantern story, I don't like the sordid Blackhawk as revised for the '80s reader, and I doubt very much that I'm going to like the new Secret Six, though I will try to maintain an open mind. Still, there is quite a bit to like in *ACW*. Surprisingly, my favorite is the weekly Sunday page of Superman, an outstanding comic strip. I'll need to see a few issues — which won't take long, once the series begins — to give a definite grade, but this issue rates a B.

• I was disappointed with "Ten Nights of the Beast," which concluded in *Batman* #420 (75¢) after four issues in which Batman and The KGBest just went from battle to battle, concluding with yet another fight in a sewer. Y'know, many years ago, Katharine Hepburn was making a movie in Venice and a scene called for her to fall into a canal. She contracted an ear infection from that canal water which continues to flare up from time to time. The water in Venice's canals is (marginally) cleaner than the water in Gotham City's sewers is likely to be and Batman spent an awful lot of time submerged in — and swallowing — sewage lately, in *Batman* and in *Detective Comics*. Considering how many open wounds and abrasions he had incurred from his battles during and just prior to his immersions (and, even more seriously, I'm not making up the part about his swallowing sewage), the possibilities for infection are truly horrifying. A shower and liberal applications of mercurchrome aren't going to be enough.

• In *Secret Origins* #5, The Crimson Avenger was finally given an origin story, nearly 50 years after his first appearance and several years after the story of his death had appeared as part of the "Whatever Happened to" series in *DC Comics Presents*. That origin story, which tied in with the real-life events surrounding Orson Welles' broad-

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Just when you thought it
was safe to go back
to the classifieds
The Swamp Thing,
returns next week.

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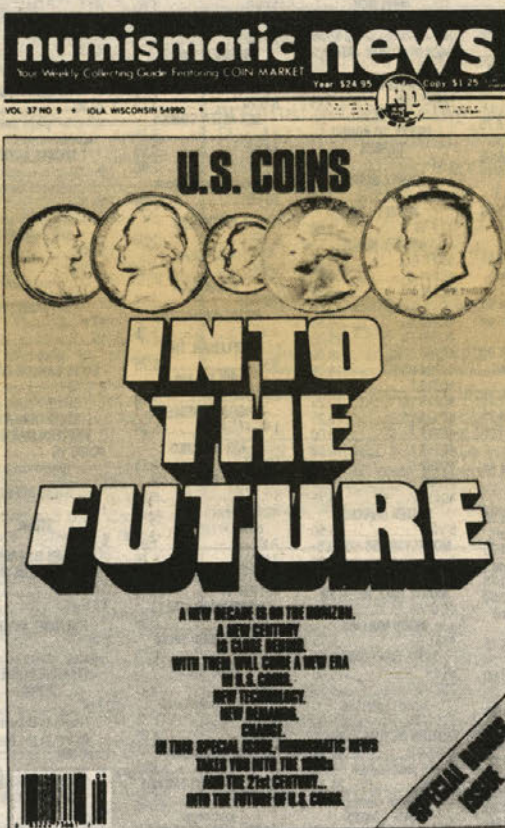
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COMICS

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cast of an adaptation of H.G. Wells' *The War of the Worlds*, was one of the best origin stories I've read and an outstanding story in its own right.

(It is ironic that the two best Crimson Avenger stories are about his "birth" and his death — and that both were written years after his original series was over and mostly forgotten.)

Now, Roy and Dann Thomas, who wrote that superb origin story, have been given a four-issue mini-series to tell what happened to The Crimson Avenger immediately after Oct. 30, 1938. *Crimson Avenger* #1 (\$1) gets off to an excellent start with very good art by Greg Brooks and a story involving "The Crimson" fighting Nazis in America at a time when Americans still treated Nazis as a quaint joke and went to parties where everyone dressed like Adolf Hitler. Grade: A.

• The movies have always been castigated for buying a classic work and changing everything but the title and one or two parts of the basic premise. This is a form of literary hooliganism which has been roundly condemned. DC Comics deserves no less for the travesty they have made of *Flash Gordon* #1 (\$1.25), in which they have turned a hero into a jerk, a heroine into a Lois Lane clone, and Mongo into an ecologically unsound planet.

Flash, who never swore in decades of comic strips, comic books, movies, television, or books, swears three times in the first three pages of this dreadful comic book. He starts winning our hearts by driving 110 mph on wet streets because "playin' it safe is for wimps." ("Wimp" is his favorite epithet.)

Even when he is fighting a monster stolen from *The Empire Strikes Back*, he demonstrates

no courage, no nobility. There is nothing to admire in him. He is a pig.

Everyone connected with this comic book should be ashamed. Create your own character; don't take an existing one and turn him into dung. Demonstrate your originality: Create a space-faring hero who will last as long as *Flash Gordon* — then you'll have the right to revise Alex Raymond's version to show how it *should* have been done. Can you say *chutzpah*, boys and girls? I knew you could. Grade: F.

• Superman and The Crimson Avenger were born 50 years ago, which makes them kids to Lee Falk's comic-strip costumed hero. *The Phantom* first appeared in newspapers early in 1936, a couple of years after Falk's first super-hero strip, *Mandrake the Magician*. Falk has written both strips ever since — talk about super-heroes.

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1000	18.30	21.50	500	19.00	20.55	100	2.65	2.75	2.85		
5000	85.85	101.00	1000	30.00	34.50	500	9.45	10.40	9.65		
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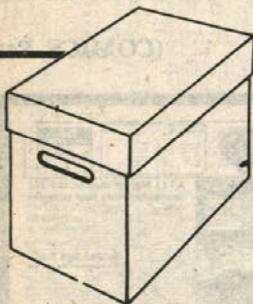
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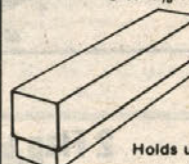
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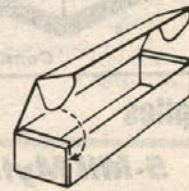
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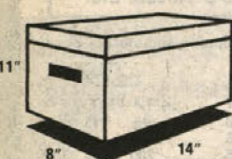
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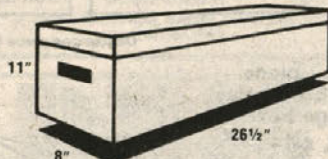
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COMICS

(From Page 45)

The Phantom is not a superhero, just a series of men wearing the same costume to give the illusion of one immortal man protecting the jungle and battling pirates for 400 years. Each Phantom passes the costume and the destiny down to his son. This has been going on for 21 generations.

There have been several comic-book incarnations of *The Phantom*, mostly reprinting the strips, but Gold Key, King Comics, and Charlton have done new stories about The Ghost Who Walks — and now it's DC's turn. Peter David wrote the story for DC's four-issue mini-series *The Phantom* (\$1.25 each), combining an adventure of the current Phantom (the 21st) with the first and the 13th Phantom. It's a good story with a couple of cute in-jokes, such as naming a couple of villains after actors and comics writers (*Comet Man*) Bill Mumy and Miguel Ferrer. Grade: A.

• Speaking of Peter David's in-jokes, don't miss *Star Trek* #51, (\$1), in which an ailing telepath projects his fever dreams throughout the *Enterprise*. Kirk's first hallucination (page 6) is hilarious. I won't even hint at it.

• *Superman* #18 (75¢) deals with the problem introduced at the end of *Action* #600, and a very serious problem it is. Baby Kal-El came to Earth through hyperspace well ahead of the radiation from the destroyed planet Krypton. Now, 50 years after the explosion of the planet, the poisonous kryptonite radiation is reaching Earth, bathing the entire planet in rays poisonous to Superman. So he gets in touch with Hawkman and Hawkwoman and they take him in their spaceship to where Krypton was — and remains, as a radioactive cloud of dust and gases around a liquid core — and he goes out in a specially treated space suit into a kryptonite cloud and has a hallucinatory dream of what might have been if his father had evacuated a large part of the population to Earth. Then the Hawks pull Superman back aboard the ship and they return to Earth and Superman resumes patrolling the skies of his new planet, cured forever of his homesickness for Krypton. The end.

Did I miss something? I re-read the issue, carefully checking each caption, each balloon. Then, without telling her why, I had Maggie read it. When she finished, I asked her the questions:

"Did John Byrne ever solve

the problem which began the story: the kryptonite radiation which is bathing the Earth and which, as far as anyone can tell, will continue to bathe the Earth for all time to come? Can Superman go about business as usual, unpoisoned by the radiation?"

"No," she said.

Somehow, between the end of *Action* #600 and the end of *Superman* #18, everybody at DC forgot about the lethal radiation and instead concentrated on curing Superman of his longing for the planet of his birth. It's really keen that Superman has learned a bitter lesson, but it won't do him any good — he's dead from the unchecked kryptonite radiation.

You sure fooled me, John. Just because you set up the problem of the radiation from Krypton, I thought you intended to solve it.

• If the blank cover for "The Real No. 6" issue of *Wasteland* isn't the worst idea of the year, it certainly will do until "The Real Worst Idea" comes along. Some years ago, I heard a comedy routine about a course called "Failure 401," which dealt with ways to make a bad situation worse. Someone at DC passed that course with straight As.

• *Who's Who in The Legion of Super-Heroes* (\$1.25) is more than just a character-by-character directory of the membership. It also offers a complete history of the most overpopulated super-group in comics and makes an excellent primer for understanding the regular series and its references to previous events. Grade: A.

Eclipse

• Don't be put off by the blurb on the cover of *Air Fighters Classics* #2 (\$3.95). It does not contain the origin of Skywolf; what it does contain, in the "Sky Wolf" story, is the origin of The Heap, a far more interesting character.

• *Hand of Fate* #1 (\$1.75) has an enjoyable story about a private detective and his psychic partner who solve "supernatural" mysteries by finding a (partially) non-supernatural explanation. This has been used by various comic-book characters over the years, including Dr. Thirteen and, I believe, Roy Raymond (before he became a pathetic buffoon in *Swamp Thing*). It's pleasant fare, but not outstanding. I'd find it easier to believe in mermaids than in this elaborate plot to make people think mermaids are responsible for drownings. Grade: C.

• When I first looked at a copy

(COMICS, Page 47)

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April

COMICS

(From Page 46)

of *Millennium Index* #1 (\$2), the first thought that crossed my mind was (no kidding) "What's *Millennium*?" The thought was followed a second later by, "Oh, yeah!" but the fact remains that that was my first reaction. *Millennium* was not, for me at least, the most memorable comic-book-reading experience of 1987. Anyway, here the whole thing is, summarized and encapsulated, with every character accounted for including the Nancy Reagan Manhunter. However, one could quibble with the order in which the issues are presented here: It seems logical that the grouping in Week 4 where the covers fit together to form one scene should be read in the sequence indicated by the covers. (One of the covers, on *Spectre* #10, will be in the second and concluding issue of this index series. Reading this is certainly better than re-reading *Millennium*. Special interest.

• *Revenge of The Prowler* #1 (\$1.75) is *The Prowler* #5 with a new title to justify another first issue. There have been no other changes — nor should there be, since this is a good series.

I make a not-always-successful effort in these reviews to avoid pointing out the obvious, but the letter column of a recent *Strike!* indicates that a lot of people are confused over what series about old pulp heroes and comic-book heroes really are revivals and what are new characters pretending to be revivals, so I'll spell out a couple of things.

There never was a Golden Age comic-book character called Sgt. Strike; he was invented at the same time as his "modern counterpart." There never was a pulp hero called The Prowler, nor were there movies about him (although Monogram Pictures, Linda Stirling, and many of the actors cited as having appeared in Prowler movies were or are real). Dark Horse's The American is a new character. Alan Moore invented The Watchmen (after his initial proposal, to use the Charlton heroes, was greeted with horror).



Ron Lim returns to do the cover for *Ex-Mutants: The Shattered Earth Chronicles* #1. Lim, who drew *The Ex-Mutants* during their original tenure at Eternity, has drawn a new cover to help begin the new series. Writer Paul O'Connor has structured the new series so that readers need not have read any previous issues of *Ex-Mutants*. The first several issues will be 40-page specials for the same \$1.95 as Eternity's regular 32-page comics. *Ex-Mutants: The Shattered Earth Chronicles* #1 ships in late March.

The Black Cat and Spider-Man's first super-foe, The Chameleon, return in *Amazing Spider-Man* #306, shipping June 14. Also in that issue, Spidey fights a new enemy, The Humbug. David Michelinie is the writer, Todd McFarlane the artist.

Airboy, The Heap, Sky Wolf, and most of the other characters in *Airboy* originally appeared in *Air Fighters* and *Airboy* in the '40s and '50s. The Shadow and Doc Savage were the stars of their own pulp magazines and have had comic-book series from various companies. Mr. Monster did exist in a Canadian comic book, but in a form quite different from Mike Gilbert's version.

There is no reason to be

embarrassed if you were taken in by someone's in-jokes; not many people are as old as I am and there is no way a modern reader could be expected to know which obscure old comic-book heroes were real — Golden Man in *Thunderbunny* is Spark Comics' Golden Lad grown up — and which ones are dreamed up by a modern writer and passed off, for whatever reason, as a revival.

• The old stories reprinted in

Weird Romance #1 (\$2) are a mixed lot. There are curious gaps and omissions — a vampire is bound with swamp grass without any explanation in one story; no one says anything about this being a method of subduing vampires or otherwise explaining why the police used swamp grass instead of handcuffs.

One story is by no means a romance story; Jim Vadeboncoeur Jr., in his text piece, says

all the romance in the story is implied; it is not implied, it is absent. There's a difference. Nevertheless, these are three above-average weird stories from 1952 and 1954. Grade: C-plus.

Next Week

Next week, I cover Fandom House and Fantagraphics Books and (probably) First Comics. Honest. Count on it. I promised Kim Thompson.



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'Bladesmen' is new comic

A new sword-and-sorcery adventure comic book, *The Bladesmen*, is coming from Blue Comet Press.

Dell Barras and Craig Stormon created this 24-page comic book. Art will be by Barras, Kevin Kall, and Stormon. It will have painted covers and interiors shaded with airbrush, wash, and zip-a-tones.

The Bladesmen are the best swordsmen and warriors from each of their kingdoms. An elf, a centaur, an amazon warrior, and a nordic warrior with a "sword of light" do battle with a beautiful witch-demon.

By Cliff Biggers

For the first part of 1988, the key word to describe comics pricing seems to be "stability." With a few minor exceptions, prices haven't made any major changes in the past few months — and, for the most part, the only real trend that can be observed in the collectible comics field is the continual downpricing of the rather expensive "hot" independent titles of the summer of 1986, as the market for those titles continues to dwindle.

If there is any sort of big

Ups, downs of comics pricing

Turtles, Green Arrow, Punisher are in demand

gainer in the collectible comics field, it has to be *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*; following the popular syndicated cartoon feature, prices began to climb once again, in some cases reaching all-time highs. Unlike most of the independents that skyrocketed in price and then fizzled out, *TMNT* has remained a very solid backstock seller. Many retailers report sluggish sales on the first three issues, simply because of their expense, but later issues, at \$10 or less, seem to sell very briskly in backstock and have a continual

demand.

The toy tie-in market seems to have fallen off; most retailers report continued soft sales on *G.I. Joe* and *Transformers* in both the collectible backstock and the new-comics market, and no other toy tie-in titles have been able to find a market for

themselves.

If any characters are hot, they'd have to be Punisher and Green Arrow. Retailers report very strong sales on *Punisher*, particularly the limited series, and the *Green Arrow* series holds

(PRICING, Page 49)

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Eclipse Editor Letitia Glozer (left), Eclipse Editor-in-Chief Catherine Yronwode (center), and artist Lela Dowling (right) stand on the Eclipse grounds.

Lucifer

Mini-series from Harrier Comics

Lucifer, a three-issue limited series from Britain's Harrier Comics Group, will continue the adventures of the title character from the introductory story which appeared in issue #5 of *Honk!* from Fantagraphics.

Written by Eddie Campbell (creator of *Deadface*), and illustrated by Phil Elliott for the first issue with Paul Grist taking over for the final two, the series will reveal how the self-styled Lord of the Damned stole Hell, sneaked into the Inferno, slew Satan, and set himself up as ruler

of the Netherworld.

Lucifer will be standard comic size, with 24 black-and-white interior pages and a color cover. It will ship in March to be on sale in April, and will cost \$1.95 in the United States, \$2.60 in Canada.

—Howard W. Stangroom

Flashback: 10 years ago

Jim Shooter is appointed editor-in-chief of Marvel Comics Group, effective Jan. 2, 1978.

—Greg W. Myers

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Things are heating up in the "Danse Macabre" issue of THE 3-D ZONE!

PRICING

(From Page 48)

up well. Some retailers are seeing increased interest in the Neal Adams Green Arrow issues of *The Brave and the Bold*, boosting prices for those comic books.

The most unusual trend in the market today seems to be the high interest in reprint volumes; some retailers are reporting very, very strong sales in reprint books, particularly trade paperback reprints of popular one-time-hot titles like *Camelot 3000*, *Ronin*, *Wolverine*, etc. Many retailers mentioned with surprise that sales on some trade paperbacks remained strong even when the price of the trade paperback exceeded the price of buying the original issues.

The hardcover market seems particularly strong, with steady sales on the two Batman hardcovers from DC, the *Marvel Masterworks* hardcovers, and very strong interest on the just-released Shadow graphic novel from Marvel. Whether this market remains strong over a longer period remains to be seen, but

right now, hardcover is hot. Don't be surprised if you see more hardcover reprints from other publishers — as well as more hardcover original graphic novels.

Compared to the market five years ago, today's comics market is dominated much more by new comics at suggested-retail price. More and more retailers are reporting slower backstock sales, particularly as publishers gear themselves towards more expensive comics (\$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, and \$2 comics being the norm rather than the exception) and high-ticket items like graphic novels, reprint volumes, etc. With collectors spending a larger portion of their comics-collecting budget on new material, there is little money left over to support a strong demand for many back issues.

What may well happen in the next five years, as a result of the strong new comics market and the tendency of many retailers to carry only mainstream comics in backstock, is a genuine scarcity of a good number of independent titles. If any of today's smaller independents catch hold and remain popular for a few years, there could be some real gems in today's market place because so many independents (a) sell in very low quantities, and (b) aren't backstocked by most retailers.

Ironically, at least one publisher complained after the devaluation of one of his titles in the last price guide; it was impossible to find the first issue of his title priced as low as the guide had indicated, he said. He was at least partially correct — more accurately, it was virtually

impossible to find the first issue of his title in any dealer's backstock, because most dealers had dumped what copies they had a year ago.

What has been created, it seems, is a truly unusual situation in comics collecting: hard-to-find books with virtually no value. It doesn't matter how hard to find a title is — if no one is looking, the book is valueless. For a collector who is truly eager to find back issues of some of today's small independent titles, the search may prove frustrating. While the books are very inexpensive, many retailers have decided they're too inexpensive to tie up backstock space and have eliminated them entirely.

As has been mentioned for the past few price updates in *CBG*, the best market seems to remain in the truly hard-to-find Silver Age collectibles; they seem to be retaining their value well and, in some cases, have climbed in price in the past year. The independent market continues to destabilize, however, as many publishers are forced to face the fact that there just aren't enough people who want to read what they're producing to make the comic books truly worthwhile. For the collector, the tough job is deciding how to evaluate these books before he ties up a great deal of his collecting budget in comics he can't profit from and won't enjoy.

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GENERAL

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25¢ cover — mostly Harveys

35¢ cover — VG or better

60¢ cover — VG or better

ARCHIE

12¢ cover — VG or better

15¢ cover — VF-NM

20¢ cover — VG or better

25¢ cover — VF-NM

35¢ cover — VF-NM

60¢ cover — NM

MYSTERY

12¢ cover — VG or better

15¢ cover — VG or better

20¢ cover — Mostly DC

VG+ — VG or better

35¢ cover — VG or better

40¢ cover — Fine or better

60¢ cover — NM

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CBG COMICS PRICE GUIDE

ARTISTS ABBREVIATIONS

AA — Alfredo Alcala	FG — Floyd Gottfredson	JSn — Jim Starlin	SB — Sal Buscema
AAa — Art Adams	FGu — Fred Guardineer	JSo — Jim Steranko	SD — Steve Ditko
AM — Al Milgrom	FH — Fred Hembeck	JSt — Joe Sinnott	S&K — Simon & Kirby
AN — Alex Nino	FM — Frank Miller	KG — Keith Giffen	SR — Steve Rude
AR — Alex Raymond	FMc — Frank McLaughlin	KGa — Kerry Gammill	S&S — Siegel & Shuster
AT — Angelo Torres	FR — Frank Robbins	KJ — Klaus Janson	TA — Terry Austin
ATh — Alex Toth	FS — Frank Springer	KN — Kevin Nowlan	TD — Tony DeZuniga
AW — Al Williamson	FT — Frank Thorne	KP — Keith Pollard	TP — Tom Palmer
BA — Brent Anderson	GC — Gene Colan	KS — Kurt Schaffenberger	TS — Tom Sutton
BB — Brian Bolland	GD — Gene Day	LMc — Luke McDonnell	TVE — Trevor Von Eeden
BE — Bill Elder	GE — George Evans	MA — Murphy Anderson	TY — Tom Yeates
BEv — Bill Everett	GI — Graham Ingels	MB — Matt Baker	VM — Val Mayerik
BG — Butch Guice	GK — Gil Kane	MD — Mort Drucker	WE — Will Eisner
BH — Bob Hall	GM — Gray Morrow	MG — Michael Golden	WH — Wayne Howard
BK — Bernie Krigstein	GP — George Perez	MGr — Mike Grell	WK — Walt Kelly
BL — Bob Layton	GT — George Tuska	MGu — Mike Gustovich	WP — Wendy Pini
BMc — Bob McLeod	HC — Howard Chaykin	MK — Mike Kaluta	WS — Walter Simonson
BO — Bob Oksner	HK — Harvey Kurtzman	MM — Mort Meskin	WW — Wally Wood
BS — Barry Smith	HN — Howard Nostrand	MN — Mike Nasser	
BSz — Bill Sienkiewicz	HT — Herb Trimpe	MP — Mike Ploog	
BW — Basil Wolverton	IN — Irv Novick	MR — Marshall Rogers	
BWa — Bob Wiacek	JA — Jack Abel	MW — Matt Wagner	
BWr — Berni Wrightson	JB — Jack Buscema	MZ — Mike Zeck	
CB — Carl Barks	JBy — John Byrne	NA — Neal Adams	
CCB — C.C. Beck	JCr — Johnny Craig	NC — Nick Cardy	
CI — Carmine Infantino	JD — Jayson Disbrow	NR — Nestor Redondo	
CR — P. Craig Russell	JDu — Jan Duursema	PB — Pat Broderick	
CS — Curt Swan	JJ — Jeff Jones	PG — Paul Gulacy	
DA — Dan Adkins	JK — Jack Kirby	PM — Pete Morisi	
DC — Dave Cockrum	JKa — Jack Kamen	PS — Paul Smith	
DD — Dick Dillin	JKu — Joe Kubert	RA — Ross Andru	
DG — Dick Giordano	JL — Jose Luis Garcia Lopez	RB — Rich Buckler	
DGr — Dan Green	JM — Jim Mooney	RBy — Reggie Byers	
DH — Don Heck	JO — Joe Orlando	RCo — Rich Corben	
DN — Don Newton	JOy — Jerry Ordway	RE — Ric Estrada	
DP — Don Perlin	JR — John Romita	RH — Russ Heath	
DS — Dan Spiggle	JR2 — John Romita Jr.	RK — Roy Krenkel	
DSt — Dave Stevens	JS — John Stanley	RM — Russ Manning	
EC — Ernie Colon	JSa — John Severin	RMo — Ruben Moreira	
FB — Frank Brunner	JSe — John Sherman	RP — Rudy Palais	
FF — Frank Frazetta	JSh — Jim Sherman	RT — Romeo Tanghal	
		SA — Sergio Aragones	

Abbreviations
 A - Appearance of
 BM - Batman
 C - Cameo of
 (c) - cover
 D - Death of
 GA - Green Arrow
 I - Introduction of
 (i) - inks
 J - Joining of
 L - Leaving of
 M or W - Wedding of
 N - New costume
 O - Origin of
 (p) - pencils
 R - Revival of
 rep. - reprint
 SpM - Spider-Man
 Thg - Thing
 V - versus
 WW - Wonder Woman
 1 - first appearance of

INTRODUCTION

The prices given here are for near-mint comics. This is the most acceptable and general condition a collector desires for newer comics. A near-mint copy is almost perfect — with almost no signs of wear or aging. There might be one or two tiny defects discernable only on close examination (for example, an extremely slight flaking on the spine).

The condition of comics is a vital factor in determining comics values. The primary conditions used in grading are "poor" (undesirable in most collections), "fair," "good," "fine," and "mint." Other grades, including the "near-mint" we use, are steps between these. A "fair" issue would be worth about 10% of the price we list. A "good" issue would be worth about 20% of our price. A "fine" issue would be worth about 60% of our price. And a "mint" copy would be worth 120% of our price.

Theoretically, given a set of grading rules, determining condition of a comic book should be simple. Unfortunately, flaws vary from item to item, and it can be difficult to pin one label on a particular issue. In no way is a CBG reader or advertiser bound to follow this or any other standard, but each is welcome to use this as a service which can clarify terms used in collecting.

Mint This is a perfect comic. Its cover has full luster, with its edges sharp and its pages like new. There are no signs of wear or aging. It is not imperfectly printed nor markedly off-center. "Mint" means just what it says.

Fine This comic book's cover is worn but flat and clean with no defacement. There is no cover writing or tape repair. Stress lines around the staples and more rounded corners are permitted. It is a good-looking issue at first glance.

Good This is a complete but very worn comic book. Creases, minor tears, rolled spine, and cover flaking are permissible — but there is no tape or browned pages. Older Golden Age comics often come in this condition.

Fair This comic book may have a soiled, slightly damaged cover, badly rolled spine, cover flaking, corners gone, tears, and the like. It is an issue with multiple problems but it is intact. Tape may be present.

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1 \$7.00
2 \$5.00
3 \$4.00
(moved to First)

WHISPER

1 \$5.00
2 \$4.00
(moved to First)

CENTURION

ANIMISM \$1.50

CHANCE

DOMINO CHANCE
1 1st printing \$6.00
2 2nd printing \$1.50
2-6 \$1.50
7 1-Gizmo \$5.00
8 2-Gizmo \$3.00
9 \$1.50

GIZMO

1 \$5.00
MALLIMALOU
1 \$1.50
MS. QUOTED TALES
1 \$1.50

CODA

1-4 \$2.00

COMICO

1-2 b&w \$2.00
BLACK BOOK
1 \$1.50
ELEMENTALS
1 \$8.00
2 \$6.00
3 \$5.00
4 \$4.00
5 \$3.00
6 \$2.00
11-22 \$1.50

EVANGELINE

1 \$4.00
2 \$3.00

FATHOM

1-3 \$1.50
FISH POLICE SPECIAL
1 \$2.50

GRENDL

(black-and-white)
1 MW \$30.00
2 MW \$20.00
3 MW, RB \$20.00
(color)
1 1st printing \$3.50
2 2nd printing \$1.50
2-17 \$1.50

GRENDL: DEVIL BY THE DEED

MW, graphic novel \$10.00
GRENDL: DEVIL'S
VAGARY
1 16-pg. b&w \$1.50
GUMBY'S SUMMER FUN
SPECIAL
1 \$2.50

JOHNNY QUEST

1 \$2.50
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PRICE GUIDE
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42 Crisis	75	210	211 AA/BW/NR	1.00	75
43-54	75	211 AA/BW/NR	1.00	75	75
55-66 Legends	75	213-214 BWR	1.00	75	75
57-58	75	215-216	75	75	75
59-62	75	217 BWR	1.00	75	75
63 Capt. Atom	75	218-219	75	75	75
64 Suicide Squad	75	220 BWR/MK	2.00	75	75
(Becomes Firestorm, the Nuclear Man)		221-222	75	75	75
FURY OF FIRESTORM		223-224	75	75	75
ANNUAL		225 AN/BWR, N. Phantom	3.00	75	75
1	\$1.00	226 AN	75	75	75
2-4	1.25	227-228 NR	2.00	75	75
(Becomes Firestorm Annual)		229-230	75	75	75
G.I. COMBAT		231-232	75	75	75
43	\$50.00	233-234	75	75	75
45	25.00	235 DD/BWR/NA	2.00	75	75
46-50	13.00	236-237	75	75	75
51-56	5.00	238 NA/WW, giant	1.00	75	75
67 I-Tank Killer	10.00	239 NA/AN, giant	1.50	75	75
68-80	5.00	240 NA/SD/WH, giant	2.00	75	75
81-82	5.00	241-242	75	75	75
83 Big & Little Al	5.00	243-244	75	75	75
84-86	2.50	245-246	75	75	75
87 Haunted Tank	12.00	247-248	75	75	75
88-113	1.50	249-250	75	75	75
114 Haunted Tank	5.00	251 NA/WW, giant	1.00	75	75
115-137	1.00	252 NA/AN, giant	1.25	75	75
138-150	1.25	253 NA/SD/WH, giant	2.00	75	75
151-153	1.00	254-255	75	75	75
154-155	1.00	256-257	75	75	75
156-157	1.00	258 DD	75	75	75
158-159	1.00	259 DD	75	75	75
160-161	1.00	260 DD	75	75	75
162-163	1.00	261 DD	75	75	75
164-165	1.00	262 DD	75	75	75
166-167	1.00	263 DD	75	75	75
168-169	1.00	264 DD	75	75	75
170-171	1.00	265 DD	75	75	75
172-173	1.00	266 DD	75	75	75
174-175	1.00	267 DD	75	75	75
176-177	1.00	268 DD	75	75	75
178-179	1.00	269 DD	75	75	75
180-181	1.00	270 DD	75	75	75
182-183	1.00	271 DD	75	75	75
184-185	1.00	272 DD	75	75	75
186-187	1.00	273 DD	75	75	75
188-189	1.00	274 DD	75	75	75
190-191	1.00	275 DD	75	75	75
192-193	1.00	276 DD	75	75	75
194-195	1.00	277 DD	75	75	75
196-197	1.00	278 DD	75	75	75
198-199	1.00	279 DD	75	75	75
200-201	1.00	280 DD	75	75	75
202-203	1.00	281 DD	75	75	75
204-205	1.00	282 DD	75	75	75
206-207	1.00	283 DD	75	75	75
208-209	1.00	284 DD	75	75	75
210-211	1.00	285 DD	75	75	75
212-213	1.00	286 DD	75	75	75
214-215	1.00	287 DD	75	75	75
216-217	1.00	288 DD	75	75	75
218-219	1.00	289 DD	75	75	75
220-221	1.00	290 DD	75	75	75
222-223	1.00	291 DD	75	75	75
224-225	1.00	292 DD	75	75	75
226-227	1.00	293 DD	75	75	75
228-229	1.00	294 DD	75	75	75
230-231	1.00	295 DD	75	75	75
232-233	1.00	296 DD	75	75	75
234-235	1.00	297 DD	75	75	75
236-237	1.00	298 DD	75	75	75
238-239	1.00	299 DD	75	75	75
240-241	1.00	300 DD	75	75	75
242-243	1.00	301 DD	75	75	75
244-245	1.00	302 DD	75	75	75
246-247	1.00	303 DD	75	75	75
248-249	1.00	304 DD	75	75	75
250-251	1.00	305 DD	75	75	75
252-253	1.00	306 DD	75	75	75
254-255	1.00	307 DD	75	75	75
256-257	1.00	308 DD	75	75	75
258-259	1.00	309 DD	75	75	75
260-261	1.00	310 DD	75	75	75
262-263	1.00	311 DD	75	75	75
264-265	1.00	312 DD	75	75	75
266-267	1.00	313 DD	75	75	75
268-269	1.00	314 DD	75	75	75
270-271	1.00	315 DD	75	75	75
272-273	1.00	316 DD	75	75	75
274-275	1.00	317 DD	75	75	75
276-277	1.00	318 DD	75	75	75
278-279	1.00	319 DD	75	75	75
280-281	1.00	320 DD	75	75	75
282-283	1.00	321 DD	75	75	75
284-285	1.00	322 DD	75	75	75
286-287	1.00	323 DD	75	75	75
288-289	1.00	324 DD	75	75	75
290-291	1.00	325 DD	75	75	75
292-293	1.00	326 DD	75	75	75
294-295	1.00	327 DD	75	75	75
296-297	1.00	328 DD	75	75	75
298-299	1.00	329 DD	75	75	75
300-301	1.00	330 DD	75	75	75
302-303	1.00	331 DD	75	75	75
304-305	1.00	332 DD	75	75	75
306-307	1.00	333 DD	75	75	75
308-309	1.00	334 DD	75	75	75
310-311	1.00	335 DD	75	75	75
312-313	1.00	336 DD	75	75	75
314-315	1.00	337 DD	75	75	75
316-317	1.00	338 DD	75	75	75
318-319	1.00	339 DD	75	75	75
320-321	1.00	340 DD	75	75	75
322-323	1.00	341 DD	75	75	75
324-325	1.00	342 DD	75	75	75
326-327	1.00	343 DD	75	75	75
328-329	1.00	344 DD	75	75	75
330-331	1.00	345 DD	75	75	75
332-333	1.00	346 DD	75	75	75
334-335	1.00	347 DD	75	75	75
336-337	1.00	348 DD	75	75	75
338-339	1.00	349 DD	75	75	75
340-341	1.00	350 DD	75	75	75
342-343	1.00	351 DD	75	75	75
344-345	1.00	352 DD	75	75	75
346-347	1.00	353 DD	75	75	75
348-349	1.00	354 DD	75	75	75
350-351	1.00	355 DD	75	75	75
352-353	1.00	356 DD	75	75	75
354-355	1.00	357 DD	75	75	75
356-357	1.00	358 DD	75	75	75
358-359	1.00	359 DD	75	75	75
360-361	1.00	360 DD	75	75	75
362-363	1.00	361 DD	75	75	75
364-365	1.00	362 DD	75	75	75
366-367	1.00	363 DD	75	75	75
368-369	1.00	364 DD	75	75	75
370-371	1.00	365 DD	75	75	75
372-373	1.00	366 DD	75	75	75
374-375	1.00	367 DD	75	75	75
376-377	1.00	368 DD	75	75	75
378-379	1.00	369 DD	75	75	75
380-381	1.00	370 DD	75	75	75
382-383	1.00	371 DD	75	75	75
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404-405	1.00	382 DD	75	75	75
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408-409	1.00	384 DD	75	75	75
410-411	1.00	385 DD	75	75	75
412-413	1.00	386 DD	75	75	75
414-415	1.00	387 DD	75	75	75
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418-419	1.00	389 DD	75	75	75
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422-423	1.00	391 DD	75	75	75
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426-427	1.00	393 DD	75	75	75
428-429	1.00	394 DD	75	75	75
430-431	1.00	395 DD	75	75	75
432-433	1.00	396 DD	75	75	75
434-435	1.00	397 DD	75	75	75
436-437	1.00	398 DD	75	75	75
438-439	1.00	399 DD	75	75	75
440-441	1.00	400 DD	75	75	75
442-443	1.00	401 DD	75	75	75
444-445	1.00	402 DD	75	75	75
446-447	1.00	403 DD	75	75	75
448-449	1.00	404 DD	75	75	75
450-451	1.00	405 DD	75	75	75
452-453	1.00	406 DD	75	75	75
454-455	1.00	407 DD	75	75	75
456-457	1.00	408 DD	75	75	75
458-459	1.00	409 DD	75	75	75
460-461	1.00	410 DD	75	75	75
462-463	1.00	411 DD	75	75	75
464-465	1.00	412 DD	75	75	75
466-467	1.00	413 DD	75	75	75
468-469	1.00	414 DD	75	75	75
470-471	1.00	415 DD	75	75	75
472-473	1.00	416 DD	75	75	75
474-475	1.00	417 DD	75	75	75
476-477	1.00	418 DD	75	75	75
478-479	1.00	419 DD	75	75	75
480-481	1.00	420 DD	75	75	75
482-483	1.00	421 DD	75	75	75
484-485	1.00	422 DD	75	75	75
486-487	1.00	423 DD	75	75	75
488-489	1.00	424 DD	75	75	75
490-491	1.00	425 DD	75	75	75
492-493	1.00	426 DD	75	75	75
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498-499	1.00	429 DD	75	75	75
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502-503	1.00	431 DD	75	75	75
504-505	1.00	432 DD	75	75	75
506-507	1.00	433 DD	75	75	75
508-509	1.00	434 DD	75	75	75
510-511	1.00	435 DD	75	75	75
512-513	1.00	436 DD	75	75	75
514-515	1.00	437 DD	75	75	75
516-517	1.00	438 DD	75	75	75
518-519	1.00	439 DD	75	75	75
520-521	1.00	440 DD	75	75	75
522-523	1.00	441 DD	75	75	75
524-525	1.00	442 DD			

PRICE GUIDE
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226 FM	3.00	92-93 JK, A-Torgo	3.00	159 PS, Diablo	2.00	33-53	50	3 rep: 1 Torch	6.00	4 A Daredevil/Moon	\$3.00	81-83 Punisher	3.00	SECTAURS	1.50
227 FM writer, Kingpin	4.00	92-93 JK, A-Torgo	3.00	160 Serpent Squad	1.00	54 SM wedding	50	4-6 rep	4.00	5 A SpM/Thing/Scarlet	2.50	84-89	1.25	1	1.50
228-230 FM writer	2.00	92-93 JK, A-Torgo	3.00	161 Moon Knight	1.25	55-66	50	7-12 rep	4.00	6 A SpM/Thing/Scarlet	2.50	90 AM, new costume	2.50	2	1.00
231-234 FM writer	1.00	92-93 JK, A-Torgo	3.00	162-166	1.00	57-66	50	13 rep/Marvel Boy	3.50	7 A SpM/Thing/Scarlet	2.50	91-96	1.00	3-8	.75
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The Rocketeer returns

Comico has 3 Dave Stevens projects this summer

Comico The Comic Company has announced that *The Rocketeer Adventure Magazine* #1 will be published in July.

"This is probably the most

anticipated comic in recent years," said Administrative Director Bob Schreck. "It's been over three years since a non-reprint *Rocketeer* comic has

been released, and the interest in the book still remains phenomenally high."

The first issue of *The Rocketeer Adventure Magazine* will contain a new *Rocketeer* story and a chapter of Mike Kaluta and Elaine Lee's *Brucilla the Muscle*, *Galactic Girl Guide*, a spin-off from their *Starstruck* series (published by Epic Comics).

The *Rocketeer* story, "Cliff's

New York Adventure," picks up where the graphic novel left off, with Cliff Second pursuing Betty cross-country, the stolen experimental rocket pack still in his possession.

"It's one of the great cliffhangers in modern comics," Schreck said. "At the end of the last chapter, the reader was left with many questions unanswered. Will Cliff find Betty? What will he do with the rocket pack? Will 'Howard Hughes' try to get the rocket pack back? What will happen to Betty? All this and World War II."

Concerning the publication

schedule, Schreck said, "We've had to reconsider our earlier stance in regard to the release of *The Rocketeer*. We had announced that we were going to publish three consecutive issues, but we want to be fair to Dave Stevens, Comico, and all the *Rocketeer* fans, and get this issue to the stands. Issue #2 is tentatively scheduled for a fall 1988 release. However, Comico will not solicit issue #2 until all original artwork has been submitted. A further announcement will be made this summer.

"That doesn't mean we don't have more Dave Stevens work on tap, though. Just two short weeks before the first issue of the comic sees print, fans can get an idea of what to expect when we release the glorious full-color *Rocketeer* poster. It's 15x22" and will retail for \$4.95. It's absolutely the most beautiful thing you've ever seen. Every Dave Stevens fan will want one.

"And just to round out the summer, in August there will be a special project we're calling *Lust and the Dust*, featuring new art by Dave Stevens. I can't reveal any details about it just yet, but we'll be letting the fans know more about it soon.

"And so, to wrap it all up: In June, it's *The Rocketeer Poster*; in July, it's *The Rocketeer Adventure Magazine* #1; and, in August, it's *Lust and the Dust*, with Dave Stevens. Retailers should be prepared for a very good season."

The Rocketeer Poster will be available in June and will retail for \$4.95.

The Rocketeer Adventure Magazine #1 will be published in full-process, painted color on high-quality paper and will retail for \$2.

Information on *Lust and the dust* will be announced shortly.

'Heartbreak Hotel' adds pages, cuts price

By Howard W. Stangroom

With its second issue, released in February, the new British comics magazine *Heartbreak Hotel* will lower its UK price from £1.75 to £1.50 and add eight pages, bringing it to a 60-page magazine.

In addition, that issue will carry the first edition of "Samizdat" — an eight-page tabloid-newspaper supplement in which the magazine's contributors and invited public figures will discuss contemporary issues. The issue in the first installment is censorship. "Samizdat" is planned as a regular supplement to *Heartbreak Hotel*.

When asked about the changes, Co-Editor Lionel Gracey-Whitman said, "*Heartbreak Hotel* was very well received and sold better than we dared hope, so we decided to pass some of the benefits from that along to our readers and give them better value for their money."

Comics contributors to *Heart-*

The "Cloak and Dagger" feature in *Strange Tales* #18 will guest-star X-Factor in a story that leads into *Cloak and Dagger* #1. *Strange Tales* #18, with a Kevin Nowlan cover, ships May 10. *Cloak and Dagger* #1 ships June 28, and will be a bi-monthly, direct-only series.

break Hotel's "Country & Western" theme issue include Hunt Emerson, Trevis Phoenix, Kate Charlesworth, Mark Buckingham, Linda Parker, David Leach, Petra Manley, Bob Lynch, and Steven Appleby. Cult figure Divine, disc-jockey and '60s comics fan Paul Gambaccini, and singer Hank Wangford are interviewed, while cartoonist Trina Robbins and actress Margi Clarke (star of *Letter to Brezhnev*) are columnists.

An additional feature of this issue is a flexi-disc featuring "Jimmy the Turk" by The Savage Garden.

Co-Editor Don Melia has announced that Alan Moore will be writing and drawing a new strip for that magazine's third issue, to be released in April.

In keeping with *Heartbreak Hotel's* practice of focusing each issue's strips on a different popular music genre, #3 will be the "psychedelic" issue, and Moore's contribution will be a "collage strip" inspired by The Move's '60s hit "I Can Hear the Grass Grow."

Melia said the strip is "very controversial and very political. I think it will make a big impact."

Heartbreak Hotel is distributed in America by Capital City, Diamond, and Last Gasp, and in Canada by Andromeda.



This Wally Wood illustration for "Kenton of the Star Patrol" in *Strange Worlds* #3 (November 1951) will be included in the second issue of *Pure Imagination's The Betty Pages*, a collection of photos of and drawings inspired by model Betty Page.

Carl Barks to sign books in store

Carl Barks will be a guest at Distractions' Rogue Valley Mall store in Medford, Ore., on Saturday, March 26, from 3 to 5 p.m. Barks is best known as the creator of Uncle Scrooge and as the writer and illustrator for many years of Disney Duck stories.

In addition to visiting with local Duck fans, Barks will sign copies of Celestial Arts' *Uncle*

Scrooge: His Life and Times, the first definitive book of Uncle Scrooge's adventures. It reprints 11 of Barks' favorite Uncle Scrooge stories, and includes a new story written and illustrated by Barks. This Uncle Scrooge story can be found only in this book.

Other signings on March 26 will be limited to one item per person.

Ithacon 13

Superman is convention theme

"Superman: Past, Present, and Future" will be the theme of the Comic Book Club of Ithaca's 13th annual convention, Ithacon 13.

In honor of Superman's 50th birthday, the Comic Book Club of Ithaca has attempted to put together a guest list that spans the many years in which Superman has been published. The confirmed guest list includes Curt Swan, Murphy Anderson, John Byrne, Mike Carlin, Denny O'Neil, Jerry Ordway, Kurt Schaffenberger, Julie Schwartz, and Roger Stern.

Ithacon is a fan-oriented convention which is run on a break-even basis. The 13th annual Ithacon will be held on April 23-24 at the Ramada Inn in Ithaca, N.Y. Membership for the entire weekend is \$4.50. For further information can write to the Comic Book Club of Ithaca,

P.O. Box 701, Ithaca, N.Y. 14851.

The Comic Book Club of Ithaca is a registered tax-exempt, non-profit organization established in 1975, and is one of the oldest continuously running comic book clubs in the country.

Flashback: Five years ago
Kitchen Sink Press begins the chronological reprinting of a classic comic strip with *Milton Caniff's Steve Canyon Magazine* #1, edited by Shel Dorf and dated January 1983.

—Greg W. Myers

Flashback: Five years ago
Don and Maggie Thompson begin working for Krause Publications Jan. 3, 1983, as co-editors of *Comics Buyer's Guide* and *Movie Collector's World*.

—Greg W. Myers



"Riders of the Purple Rage" is the title of *Dark Wolf* #2, in which Father Michael Tremaine and his demonic alter ego travel to a small Colorado town that is being terrorized by a motorcycle gang. Toxic waste dumping near the gang's local hangout has driven them to madness and only *Dark Wolf* can save the townspeople. This issue is written by R.A. Jones and drawn by Butch Burcham. It goes on sale in March.

What Th—!? #3 ships June 7 and contains four features: Peter Porker, the Spectacular Spider-Ham stars in a parody of last summer's Kraven the Hunter story; The Vision and Scarlet Witch destroy marital bliss in a story by Richard Howell; The X-Men have a beach party; and Fred Hembeck introduces Doctor Deranged's lackey disciple.

The Mutant Freedom Force guest-stars in *Captain America* #346, shipping June 16, as the new Captain America picks a fight with The Resistance, a group of mutants who refuse to obey the Mutant Registration Act. The story is by writer Mark Gruenwald, penciller Kieron Dwyer, and inker Al Milgrom.

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HEATH/NEWARK, OH - March 18-20 - Comic, Baseball Card & Sports Memorabilia Show, Indian Mound Mall, 771 South 30th St., main hours, T: 45, F: \$70, for 3 days, A: free. Kevin Reidelbach, 479 Reinhard Ave., Columbus, OH 43206. PH: 614-443-5108.

LANSING, MI - March 19 - Comics & Cards, Holiday Inn, 6501 Pennsylvania, I-96 Exit 104, 10am-4pm, T: 28, F: \$35. Joe Szeremet, 5545 Brunswick, Pontiac, MI 48054. PH: 313-683-5289.

AKRON, OH - March 19-20 - Jubilee Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention (C. SF), Holiday Inn Cascade, 5 Cascade Blvd., F: \$30, per table-per day. Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

SAGINAW, MI - March 20 - Comics & Cards Show, Holiday Inn, Holland Rd. at I-75 Exit

122, 10am-4pm, T: 30, F: \$35. Joe Szeremet, 5545 Brunswick, Pontiac, MI 48054. PH: 313-683-5289.

ALPINE, IL - March 20 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Mini Con, Holiday Inn, 127th Cicero, 9am-3pm, T: 35, F: \$30, A: \$1. Ken Casper, 3858 W. 63rd St., Chicago, IL 60629. PH: 582-2273 or 424-9492.

ROYAL OAK, MI - March 20 - Encore Con Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, American Legion Hall, 1815 Rochester Rd. (corner of 12 Mile & Rochester Rd.), 10am-5pm, F: \$24, A: \$1.50. Michael Goldman, Suite 231, 19827 W. 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 313-350-2633.

CINCINNATI, OH - March 26-27 - Collectibles Show II, Drawbridge Inn, Buttermilk Pike (Exit 186 off I-75), T: 55, F: \$50, A: \$1. Jeff Bruce, 2643 Noble Ave., Hamilton, OH 45015. PH: 513-896-7986.

FLINT, MI - March 26 - Comics & Baseball Cards Convention, Sheraton Inn, Pierson Rd.

at I-75 Exit 122, 10am-4pm, T: 30, F: \$35. Joe Szeremet, 5545 Brunswick, Pontiac, MI 48054. PH: 313-683-5289.

ANN ARBOR, MI - March 27 - Comics & Baseball Cards Show, Holiday Inn, East, Washtenaw Ave., US 23 Exit 37B or I-94 Exit 180N, 10am-4pm, T: 22, F: \$35. Joe Szeremet, 5545 Brunswick, Pontiac, MI. PH: 313-683-5289.

MENASHA, WI - March 27 - Comic, Baseball Card & Record Super Show, Sabre Lanes, 1330 Midway Rd., T: 75, F: \$14, A: 50¢. Allen Kranick, PH: 414-893-8769.

MONROE, MI - March 27 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Howard Johnsons, 1440 N. Dixie Hwy. (I-75 & N. Dixie Hwy. Exit 15), 10am-4:30pm, F: \$25, A: \$1. Donald Games, 912-H Greenwood Ave., Monroe, MI 48161. PH: 313-242-7084.

LOMBARD, IL - March 27 - Relax-A-Con, Vets Hall, 635 N. Parker Dr., 3am-3pm, T: 35, F: \$24.95, A: \$1. Hank Franklin, 260 N. Ardmore, Villa Park, IL 60181. PH: 312-834-0383.

CHICAGO, IL - April 9 - Windy City Comic Con, Sebastian Hall, 810 W. Wellington at Halsted, 10am-5pm, T: 45, F: \$50, A: \$1.50 adults, \$1. kids. Fred Marsahl, 2723 N. Dayton, Chicago, IL. PH: 312-281-6603.

CHICAGO, IL - April 10 - Southside Comic Book & Baseball Card Mini Con, Ford City Holiday Inn, 7353 S. Cicero Ave., 9:30am-3pm, F: \$30, A: \$1. Oaklawn Comics, 4929 W. 95th St., Oaklawn, IL 60453. PH: 312-445-7873.

COLUMBUS, OH - April 10 - Con-Quest, University Inn, 3110 Oentangy River Rd., 10am-6pm, A: \$5. Roger Price, R.A.P. Productions, PO Box 3831, Mansfield, OH 44907.

MILWAUKEE, WI - April 10 - Comic Book Show, Burnham Bowl, 6016 W. Burnham, 11am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$15, A: 50¢. Jef Parker, 2327 S. Kinnickinnic, PH: 414-481-5055.

ALPENA, MI - April 16 - Comics & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, 1000 US 23 North, 10am-4pm, T: 18, F: \$35. Joe Szeremet,

(EVENTS, Page 58)

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THIEF OF BAGDAD GRAPHIC NOVEL #1 (Starblaze Pub.)	12.95	only 9.95 ea.
THE SURVIVORS GRAPHIC NOVEL #1 (Fantagraphics Pub.)	4.95	only 2.95 ea.
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OMAHA THE CAT DANCER GRAPHIC NOVEL (Kitchen Sink Pub.)	12.95	only 9.95 ea.
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EVENTS

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5545 Brunswick, Pontiac, MI 48054. PH: 313-683-5289.

LOUISVILLE, KY - April 16-17 - Comics & Cards Show, (C, SF). Days Inn, 101 E. Jefferson, F: \$40., A: \$1.50. Dusty Corners, 947 Eastern Pkwy., Louisville, KY 40217. PH: 502-637-7975.

TRAVERSE CITY, MI - April 17 - Comics & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, 615 E. Front St., 10am-4pm, T: 18, F: \$35. Joe Szeremet, 5545 Brunswick, Pontiac, MI 48054. PH: 313-683-5289.

HILLSIDE, IL - April 17 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, on I-290-Eisenhower Expwy. between Wolf & Mannheim, 10am-3pm, F: \$30., A: \$1. Graham Crackers, 5 East Chicago Ave., Naperville, IL 60540. PH: 312-355-4310.

LIVONIA, MI - April 17 - X-Trava Con Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, American Legion Hall, 29500 W. 9 Mile Rd. (corner of 9 Mile & Middlebelt Rd.), 10am-4pm, F: \$24., A: \$1.50. Michael Goldman, Suite 231, 19827 W. 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 313-350-2633.

PLATTEVILLE, WI - April 23 - Plattecon Alpha, University, Wi-Platteville, 9am-9pm, F: \$17.50, A: \$3. Platteville Gaming Assn., Box 109, Platteville, WI 53818. PH: 608-348-4419.

SOUTH BEND, IN - April 23 - Michiana Comi-Con, Z.B. Falsons Hall, Sheridan at Western, 10am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$30., A: \$1.

Jim Rossow, 53100 Poppy Rd., South Bend, IN 46628. PH: 219-232-8129.

ALLEN PARK, MI - April 24 - Comic & Card Show, VFW Post 5572, 16736 Ecorse Rd., 10am-4pm, T: 40, A: \$1.50. John Davis, 9203 Melville, PH: 382-0700.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES IN REGION: Del., Md., N.C., S.C., Va., W. Va. and Wash. D.C.

ARLINGTON, VA - March 19 - Serendipity Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Days Inn, 2000 Jefferson Davis Hwy., 11am-4:30pm, T: 25, F: \$40., A: \$2. Bob Horn, 4 Oak Rd., Elkton, MD 21921. PH: 301-398-6685.

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA - March 19 - Comic Book, Baseball Card & Record Show, Pembroke Mall, 10am-9:30pm, F: \$40., A: free. Larry Webster, 1209 Winston St., Norfolk, VA 23518. PH: 804-587-7160.

BALTIMORE, MD - March 20 - Serendipity Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Quality Inn-Towson, Beltway Exit 26 South, 11am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$40., A: \$2. Bob Horn, 4 Oak Rd., Elkton, MD 21921. PH: 301-398-6685.

ARLINGTON, VA - March 26 - Jubilee Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention (C, SF), Holiday Inn, 1489 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Rt. 1, 10am-5pm, F: \$50. Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

CHARLOTTE, NC - April 9-10 - Comics & Collectibles Show, 77 Tyrola Place, I-77 & Tyrola Rd., T: 50, F: \$50., A: free. Bob Smith, "Comics Nuff Said, 1500 Central Ave., Charlotte, NC 28205. PH: 704-333-5592.

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA - April 10 - Jubilee Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention (C, SF), Sheraton Hotel, Ocean Front-36th St., 10am-4pm, A: \$3. Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

SILVER SPRING, MD - April 17 - Jubilee Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention (C, SF), Armory Place, 925 Wayne Ave., 10am-4pm, Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

RICHMOND, VA - April 17 - Chesterfield Comic Collectors Spring Show, Dale Ruritan Foundation Bldg., Cascade St. (near intersection of Chippendale Pkwy. & Ironbridge Rd.), 9:30am-4pm, T: 32, F: \$28., A: \$1. Guy Rose, 2409 Buena Vista Blvd., Chester, VA 23831. PH: 804-748-7157.

HICKORY, NC - April 30-May 1 - Super Giant Books Show, Valley Hills Mall, Hwy. 64-70, Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 1pm-6pm, T: 90, F: \$50., A: free. D.W. Howard, 344 Merrimon Ave., Asheville, NC 28801. PH: 704-254-2103.

CHEVY CHASE, MD - May 1 - Serendipity Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, 5520 Wisconsin Ave., 11am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$40., A: \$2. Bob Horn, 4 Oak Rd., Elkton, MD 21921. PH: 301-398-6685.

ARLINGTON, VA - May 21 - Jubilee Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention (C, SF), Holiday Inn, 1489 Jeff Davis Hwy. Rt. 1, 10am-5pm, Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

BALTIMORE, MD - May 22 - Serendipity Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Quality Inn-Towson, Beltway Exit 26 South, 11am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$40., A: \$2. Bob Horn, 4 Oak Rd., Elkton, MD 21921. PH: 301-398-6685.

MOUNTAIN

STATES IN REGION: Ariz., Colo., Idaho, Mont., Nev., N.M., Utah and Wyo.

AURORA, CO - March 19-20 - Aurora Mini Show, Holiday Inn East, 13650 E. Colfax, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 20, F: \$15., A: \$1. Butch Riley, 1496 Dallas, Aurora, CO 80010. PH: 303-366-1946.

LAS VEGAS, NV - May 14 - Comic Book, Baseball Card & Collectibles Show, Elks Club, 900 N. Las Vegas Blvd., 10am-5pm, T: 40, F: \$30., A: \$4. adults, kids 12 & under \$3. ESTATE Comics, 1004 N. Rancho Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89106. PH: 702-646-8252.

NEW ENGLAND

STATES IN REGION: Conn., Maine, Mass., N.H., R.I. and Vt.

NORWICH, CT - March 20 - 5th Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Sheraton, Rt. 82, Exit 80 off Rt. 395, 9am-4pm, T: 55, A: free. Larry Rice, 69 Rt. 82, Oakdale, CT 06370. PH: 203-887-2689.

WEST HAVEN, CT - March 20 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, K of C Hall, 263 Center St., 10am-4pm, T: 54, F: \$35., A: \$2. adults, \$1. kids. Harold Finer, PH: 203-933-3489.

STAMFORD, CT - March 27 - Comic Book Convention, Howard Johnsons, 135 Harvard Ave., Exit 6 off I-95, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

Ave., Exit 6 off I-95, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

WALTHAM, MA - March 27 - Universicon II, (C, SF, Star Trek, gaming), Brandeis University, Shapiro Gym, 415 South St., 10am-6pm, F: \$45., A: \$3. Box 2293, Brandeis Univ., Waltham, MA 02254-9110. PH: 617-736-5873.

BOSTON, MA - March 27 - The Sunday Funnies, Howard Johnsons Hotel 57, 200 Stuart St., 10am-5pm, T: 45, F: \$50., A: \$2.50. Will Murray, 334 E. Squantum St., Quincy, MA 02271. PH: 617-328-9460.

WALTON, CT - April 17 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Stillwood Inn, Rt. 5, 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 60, F: \$35., A: \$2. adults, \$1. kids. Harold Finer, PH: 203-933-3489.

CHICOPEE, MA - April 17 - CollectoCon, Quality Inn & Conference Center, at Exit 6-Mass Tnpke., 10am-4pm, F: \$25., A: \$1. Dick Sikes, PO Box 3092, Springfield, MA. PH: 413-781-1995.

EAST HARTFORD, CT - April 24 - CT Comic Con, Elks Hall, 148 Roberts St., 11am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$25., A: 99¢. Harold E. Kinney, RFD 1, Box 218A, Andover, CT 06232. PH: 203-289-1208.

NEW HAVEN, CT - April 30 - Comic Book Convention, The Park Plaza, 155 Temple St., Exit 47 off I-95, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

TYNGSBORO, MA - May 7 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Tyngsboro Jr-Sr High School, Norris Rd., 10am-5pm, T: 110, F: \$25., A: \$1. Michael John, PO Box 6, Tyngsboro, MA 01879. PH: 617-649-7773.

CHICOPEE, MA - May 11-15 - Collectors Show, Fairfield Mall, Exit 5 Mass Pike & Rt. 33, 10am-9pm, T: 40, A: free. Bill Gouvalaris, Box 1415, Saugus, MA. PH: 617-233-5896.

STAMFORD, CT - May 22 - Comic Book Convention, Howard Johnsons, 135 Harvard Ave., Exit 6 off I-95, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

NIANTIC, CT - May 22 - Southeast Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Howard Johnsons, I-95 Exit 74, 9am-4pm, T: 50-60, F: \$30., A: free. Eric Parnes, 32 Avery Ct., New London, CT 06320. PH: 203-444-2026 eves.

NORTHEAST

STATES IN REGION: N.J., N.Y. and Pa.

PLAINVIEW, NY - March 19 - Comic Book Convention, Howard Johnsons Plaza Hotel, 150 Sunnyside Blvd. Exit 46 off I-95, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

SYRACUSE, NY - March 19 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, Buckley Rd. (Exit 36), 10am-3pm, T: 40, F: \$39., A: \$1. Ted Hanes, 20 Burke Dr., Buffalo, NY 14215. PH: 716-835-1483.

MT. HOLLY, NJ - March 19 - Burlington Co. Comics & Cards Convention, Howard Johnsons Motor Lodge, NJ Tnpke. exit 5 at Rt. 541, 10am-4:30pm, T: 28, F: \$35., A: \$1.50. Ruth Campbell, 827 Prospect Ave., Pine Beach, NJ 08741. PH: 201-269-9486.

WESTBURY, LI, NY - March 20 - Miller's Nassau Collectibles & Baseball Cards Show #2, Holiday Inn, 369 Old Country Rd., 10am-4pm, T: 23, F: \$50., A: \$1. Steve or Dave Miller, PH: 516-328-0184.

RONKONKOMA, NY - March 20 - Li Monthly Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn at Mac Arthur Airport, 3845 Veterans Hwy., 10am-4:30pm, T: 27, F: \$38., A: \$0¢. Vincent M. Grassi, 36 Park Ave., Carle Place, NY 11514. PH: 516-741-8193.

WARRINGTON, PA - March 20 - Tri-State Comic & Baseball Card Show, Warrington Motor Lodge, Rts. 611 & 132 on N. of PA Tpk., Willow Grove Exit 27, 10am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$35., A: free. Allen Brock, 4037 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19104. PH: 215-386-1492.

NEW YORK CITY, NY - March 20 - Comic Book Convention, Roosevelt Hotel, Colonial Room, Madison & 46th, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

BUFFALO, NY - March 20 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Marriott, 1340 Miller-sport Hwy., 11am-4pm, T: 70, F: \$49., A: \$2.50. Ted Hanes, 20 Burke Dr., Buffalo, NY 14215. PH: 716-835-1483.

ABSECON, NJ - March 20 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, American Legion Hall, New Jersey Ave. & Mill Rd., 9:30am-4:30pm, A: \$1. Gary Ritchie, PO Box 781, Pomona, NJ 08240. PH: 609-965-4439 or Bob Kepner, 14 Tilton Terrace, Cardiff, NJ 08232. PH: 609-641-2836.

ROCHELLE PARK, NJ - March 20 - Comic Books & Baseball Cards Show, Ramada Inn, W. Passaic St., Exit 160 G.S.P., 9:30am-4:30pm, A: \$1.50. INFO: 201-445-7280.

PHILADELPHIA, PA - March 20 - Comic Book Convention, Holiday Inn, City Lane Ave. on 4100 Presidential Blvd., 10am-4pm, A: \$3. Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

HAUPPAUGE, NY - March 20 - Island Nostalgia Comic & Card Show, Holiday Inn, off I-95 Exit 55, 10am-4pm, A: 50¢. Dennis, PH: 516-724-7422 6pm-7pm daily or 516-234-3030 day of show only.

FLORAL PARK, NY - March 20 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Jewish Center, 26 N. Tyson Ave., 10am-4pm, T: 21, F: \$25., A: free. Marc Roffman, 255-21 E. Williston Ave., Floral Park, NY 11001.

ERIE, PA - March 26 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Quality Inn, 10th St. at Peach, 10am-3pm, T: 40, F: \$39., A: \$1.50. Ted Hanes, 20 Burke Dr., Buffalo, NY 14215. PH: 716-835-1483.

NEW YORK CITY, NY - March 26 - NY Monthly Collectibles Fair, Days Inn, West 57th St. & 10 Ave, Frederic Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25 A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

BELMAR, NJ - March 26 - Jersey Shore Comics & Card Show, Elks Lodge #1997, 708 7th Ave., 10am-4:30pm, T: 18, F: \$25., A: \$1.25. Ruth Campbell, 827 Prospect Ave., Pine Beach, NJ 08741. PH: 201-269-9486.

BROOKLYN, NY - March 27 - Collectibles Show, Golden Gate Inn, Knapp St. Belt Pkwy. (Exit 9), T: 50, F: \$40., A: free. Harry Dubner, "Golden Gate Inn, 3867 Shore Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY. PH: 718-934-6962.

PITTSBURGH, PA - March 27 - Comic Fandom Convention, Howard Johnsons, Rt. 48 at Rt. 22, 11am-4pm, T: 50, F: \$49., A: \$2. Ted Hanes, 20 Burke Dr., Buffalo, NY 14215. PH: 716-835-1483.

EDISON, NJ - March 27 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Con #10, Holiday Inn (Raritan Center), Exit 10-NJ Tpk., 10am-4pm, T: 25, F: \$40., A: \$2. Sergio Candido, PO Box 95, Woodbridge, NJ 07095. PH: 201-613-8239.

SMITHTOWN, NY - April 2 - Comic & Baseball Card Expo., Sheridan, Exit 54 Long Island Expwy., 10am-4pm, T: 72, F: \$50., A: \$1. adults, 50¢ for kids. Herb Ubbens, PH: 516-277-6251.

PLAINVIEW, NY - April 3 - Millers Nassau Collectibles Show #3, VFW Hall Post 5942, 1221 Old Country Rd., 10am-4pm, T: 14, F: \$50., A: \$1. Steve or Dave Miller, 1171 Barnes St., Franklin Square, NY 11010. PH: 516-328-0184.

MT. LAUREL, NJ - April 9 - Comic Book Convention, Budget Motor Lodge, Rt. 73 & Fellowship Rd., Exit 4 off NJ Tpk. Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

QUEENS, NY - April 9 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Elks Club, 8210 Queens Blvd., 10am-4pm, T: 30, F: \$45., A: \$1. Frank Coz, 203-12 27 Ave., Bayside, NY. PH: 718-352-9353.

WESTBURY, LI, NY - April 9 - Golden Island Comic Convention, Holiday Inn, 369 Old Country Rd., 10am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$35., A: \$1. Steve, 262 Broadway, Bethpage, LI, NY 11714. PH: 516-933-8477.

MINEOLA, NY - April 10 - Millers Nassau Collectibles Show #1, K of C Hall, 186 Jericho Tpk., 10am-4pm, T: 32, F: \$50., A: \$1. Steve or Dave Miller, 1171 Barnes St., Franklin Square, NY 11010. PH: 516-328-0184.

UNION, NJ - April 10 - Collectors Showcase, Union Boys & Girls Club, 1050 Jeanette St., 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 38, F: \$35., A: \$2. Mike Grecco, PO Box 189, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. PH: 201-291-1632.

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Maurice Horn,
The World Encyclopedia of Comics

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EVENTS

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ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY - April 10 - Long Island Comic Book & Collectibles Market Convention, Holiday Inn, 173 Sunrise Hwy., 10am-5pm, T: 40, F: \$40, A: free. Ken Diamond, Cosmic Comics, 139 N. Park Ave., Rockville Centre, NY 11570. PH: 516-763-1133.

BROOKLYN, NY - April 10 - Collectibles Show, Golden Gate Inn, Knapp St. Bell Pkwy. (Exit 9), T: 50, F: \$40, A: free. Harry Dubner, "Golden Gate Inn, 3867 Shore Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY. PH: 718-934-6962.

LONG ISLAND, NY - April 10 - The Original LI Monthly Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Coliseum Motor Inn, 1650 Hempstead Tpke., East Meadow, LI, NY, 10am-4pm, A: free, Starwind Comics, PO Box 863, Levittown, NY 11756. PH: 716-672-2913 or PO Box 66, Fredonia, NY 14063. PH: 516-794-2100 day of show.

NEW YORK CITY, NY - April 10 - Comic Book

Convention, Roosevelt Hotel, Colonial Room, Madison & 46th, Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

ROCHESTER, NY - April 10 - Comic Book & Card Show, Marriott Inn, 5257 W. Henrietta, 11am-4pm, T: 50, F: \$49, A: \$2. Ted Hanes, 20 Burke Dr., Buffalo, NY 14215. PH: 716-835-1483.

KINGS PARK, NY - April 10 - Comic & Card Show, VFW Hall, 40 Church St., 10am-4pm, T: 32, F: \$35, A: 50¢. Herb Ubbens, 169 W. Orange St., Brentwood, NY 11717. PH: 516-277-6251.

VALLEY FORGE, PA - April 10 - Serendipity Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, opposite King of Prussia Mall, 11am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$40, A: \$2. Bob Horn, 4 Oak Rd., Elkton, MD 21921. PH: 301-398-6685.

WAYNE, NJ - April 10 - Comic Books & Baseball Cards Show, Wayne P.A.L. Bldg., Alps Rd., 9:30am-4:30pm, A: \$1. INFO: 201-445-7280.

SEASIDE HEIGHTS, NJ - April 16 - Jersey Shore

Comics & Cards Convention, American Legion Post #351, Carteret Ave. & Bay Blvd., 10am-4:30pm, T: 36, F: \$30, A: \$1.25. Ruth Campbell, 827 Prospect Ave., Pine Beach, NJ 08741. PH: 201-269-9486.

OZONE PARK, NY - April 16 - Hobby Mania, Community United Methodist Church, 132-05 Crossbay Blvd., 10am-7, T: 30, F: \$30, A: \$1. Ken or Tiger, 111-04 Lefferts Blvd., S. Ozone Park, NY 11420. PH: 718-845-7869 days or 849-7706 nights.

WESTBURY, LI, NY - April 17 - Miller's Nassau Collectibles & Baseball Cards Show #2, Holiday Inn, 369 Old Country Rd., 10am-4pm, T: 23, F: \$50, A: \$1. Steve or Dave Miller, PH: 516-328-0184.

STATEN ISLAND, NY - April 17 - Collectors Showcase, Labetti Post #2159, 390 Hylan Blvd., 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 40, F: \$45, A: \$2. Mike Grecco, PO Box 189, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. PH: 201-291-1632.

WARRINGTON, PA - April 17 - Tri-State Comic & Baseball Card Show, Warrington Motor Lodge, Rts. 611 & 132 or 5 miles N. of PA

Tpke., Willow Grove Exit 27, 10am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$35, A: free. Allen Brock, 4037 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19104. PH: 215-386-1492.

CHERRY HILL, NJ - April 17 - Serendipity Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn, Rt. 70 & Sayer Ave., 12pm-5pm, T: 25, F: \$40, A: \$2. Bob Horn, 4 Oak Rd., Elkton, MD 21921. PH: 301-398-6685.

ROBBINSVILLE, NJ - April 17 - Central NJ Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Washington Volunteer Fire Dept., Rt. 130, 9:30am-4pm, T: 45, F: \$35, A: \$2. Mike Chaudhuri, PO Box 151, Hightstown, NJ 08520. PH: 609-448-7585.

SEASIDE HEIGHTS, NJ - April 17 - Jersey Shore Comics & Cards Convention, American Legion Post 354, Carteret Ave. at Bay Blvd., 10am-4:30pm, T: 36, F: \$30, A: \$1.25. Ruth Campbell, 827 Prospect Ave., Pine Beach, NJ 08741. PH: 201-269-9486.

SPRINGFIELD, NJ - April 17 - Comic Book Convention, Holiday Inn, 304 Rt. 22, West Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A,

Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

HAUPPAUGE, NY - April 17 - Island Nostalgia Comic & Card Show, Holiday Inn, off I-19 Exit 55, 10am-4pm, A: 50¢. Dennis, PH: 516-724-7422 6pm-7pm daily or 516-234-3030 day of show only.

WEST LONG BRANCH, NJ - April 23 - Ramada Inn, Rt. 36 at Broadway, 10am-4:30pm, T: 32, F: \$35, A: \$1.25. Ruth Campbell, 827 Prospect Ave., Pine Beach, NJ 08741. PH: 201-269-9486.

NEW YORK CITY, NY - April 23 - NY Monthly Collectibles Fair, Days Inn, West 57th St. & 10 Ave. Frederic Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

ITHACA, NY - April 23 - Ithacon 13 Comics Collectors Convention, Ramada Inn, 222 S. Cayuga St., Sat. 11am-7pm, Sun. 12pm-5pm, T: 23 (sold out), A: \$4. ITHACON, George Kozak, P.O. Box 701, Ithaca, NY 14851.

RONKONKOMA, NY - April 24 - LI Monthly Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday

(EVENTS, Page 60)

CBG RETAILER DIRECTORY

The following is a listing of comic shops across the country, arranged by state. Be sure to mention that you saw it in CBG! Retailers listed in bold type carry The Comics Buyer's Guide.

ALABAMA

ALA Discount Comic Book Shop
1301 Noble St.
Anniston, AL 36201
205-238-8373

Thousands of books in stock, mail order, subscription service.

The Comic Shop
502 Andrew Jackson Way
Huntsville, AL 35801
205-536-5186

Offering the best in comics and games. We also buy.

ALASKA

Bosco's Comics Cards & Games
2606 Spennard Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-274-4112

Alaska's largest selection of comics, baseball cards and games.

CALIFORNIA

Al's Comic Shop
1847 Pacific Ave.
Stockton, CA 95204
209-464-1513

We carry comic books, cards, role playing games & S.F. models.

Another World Comics (Original)
1615 Colorado Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90041
213-257-7757

Serving Los Angeles for over a decade. Back issues especially.

Bonanza Books & Comics
813 W. Roseburg Ave.
(in Roseburg Square)
Modesto, CA 95350
(209) 529-0415

The Collector's headquarters. Thousands of back issues, cards, supplies & comic club.

The Comic Book Store (Ninth Nebula)
11517 Burbank Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA 91601
818-509-2901

Discounts, air arrival's Thurs. at 7:00 P.M., (call for hours and to hear what's new)

Geoffreys Comics
15530 Crenshaw
Gardena, CA 90249
213-538-3198

One of the largest stores in L.A. area. Golden Age comics — our specialty!

Graphitti Discount Comics
8639 Lincoln Blvd. #102
AMFAC Hotel (rear) near L.A.X.
Westchester, L.A., CA 90045
213-641-8661

Call about discounts plus Culver City and Westwood Village — UCLA locations!

Lee's Comics
3429 Alma St. (in Alma Plaza)
Palo Alto, CA 94306
415-493-3957

Friendly service, best selection lowest prices! Call us, we ship.

Markstu Collectibles
3642 7th St.
Riverside, CA 92501
714-684-8544

Open 7 days. Over 50,000 back & current issues stocked.

Pantechicon
783 Rear Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
805-495-9330

Science fiction, fantasy, comics. Open 2-6 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 11-5

Shooting Star Comics & Baseball Cards
700 E. Colorado Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91205
818-502-1535

New comics on Thursday. Comics club get 12% to 20% off on everything!

CONNECTICUT

Collector's Castle Comics & Sci-Fi
175 Center St.
Wallingford, CT 06492
203-269-8502 (12-6, Closed Tuesday)

Japanimation headquarters: videotapes? \$15.00. Connecticut's largest comic stockpile. Toys, gum cards, discounts. Always free bags!!!

Dream Factory
130 New Canaan Ave.
Norwalk, CT 06850
203-847-0282

Super saver gold gets you 30% off your comics. Open every day.

Dream Factory
50 Naugatuck Ave.
Milford, CT 06460
203-874-2709

Searching for something? We have it. Open every day!

Dream Factory
575 Boston Post Road
(Leisuretime Mall)
Orange, CT 06770
203-799-9279

Bloom County, Farside & much more. Open every day!

The Nostalgia Shop
2980 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT 06518
203-281-0577

Comics old & new, science fiction, movie related, and much more.

DELAWARE

Captain Blue Hen Comics/Cards
280 E. Main St. Suite #4
Newark, DE 19711
302-737-3434

New & back issues. Delaware's largest selection. Dover store 734-3222

FLORIDA

Charlie's Comics
1255 W 46 St.
Hialeah, FL 33012
557-5994

Marvel, DC, Alternatives, 7 days, new comics Thursdays, discounts.

The Coinman's Collectables
6145 Ft. Caroline Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32211
904-744-2344

Comics from 1938 to date — games, models, rockets. Open 10 A.M.-7 P.M. M-S.

Comic Exchange, Inc.
8432 W. Oakland Park Blvd.
Sunrise, FL 33351
305-742-0777

New comics discounted, back issues. Adventure and war game specialists.

Enterprise 1701
2814 Corrine Drive
Orlando, FL 32803
305-896-1701

Orlando's largest shop new and back issues. Subscription service. Comic Hotline (305) 898-3935.

Family Book Shop
Second Hand Prose
1301 N. Woodland Blvd.
Deland, FL 32720
904-736-6501

Comics, collectibles, gaming, science fiction, supplies, near Daytona Beach, Smiles.

Franks Comics And Baseball Card Store
2678 S.W. 87 Ave.
Miami, FL 33165
305-226-5072

Back issue comics, new comics Thursday, baseball cards, supplies, movie collectables.

Geppi's Comic World, Inc.
Keene Plaza Shopping Center
2226 East Bay Drive
Largo, FL 33541
813-585-0226

Comics, Doctor Who, Sci-fi, subscription service.

Peace Chief
5610 14th St. West (U.S. 41)
Bradenton, FL 34207
813-756-6224

Collector's headquarters: comics, gum cards, albums, trains. Open 7 days a week.

GEORGIA

The Book Trader
1026-10 Cherokee Rd.
Smyrna, GA 30080
404-432-4535

Specialty comics & used paperbacks. Cobb's best since 1975. Sell - Trade - Buy.

Komix Castle, Inc.
4315 Pio Nono Ave.
Macon, GA 31206
912-781-6110

Gaming, new/old comics, dice, miniatures, B.B. cards. Open 7 days.

ILLINOIS

All-American Comic Shops, Ltd.
3514 W 95th St.
Evergreen Park, IL 60642
312-425-7555

Also located in Orland Park, Brookfield, & Park Forest.

Comic Collector
2324 S. Harlem
Riverside, IL 60546
312-442-0399

New comics Thursday afternoon. Best subscription service offer anywhere.

Comics For Heroes
1702 W. Foster
Chicago, IL 60640
(1 block W of Ashland)
312-769-4745

New comics Thursday. Marvels, DC's. All independents. Dr. Who, Japanese items. Catalogue 50¢.

Comics For Heroes
3937 W. Lawrence
Chicago, IL 60625
312-478-8585

New comics Thurs. 1:00-9:30, Mon.-Sat. 12:30-8:00, back issues galore, gaming, bags, boxes, boards.

Comic Kingdom
5941 W Irving Park Rd.
Chicago, IL 60634
312-545-2231

Chicagoland's largest comics-only store. 60,000 comics now in stock.

Everybody's Bookstore
2120 Devon
Chicago, IL 60659
312-764-0929

New comics Thursday, Marvel, DC, independents. Used magazines, paperbacks. More.

5 Star Entertainment Inc.
7534 N. Milwaukee
Chicago, IL 60648
312-647-2119

New/old comics, buy/trade, supplies, videos, open everyday, discounts.

Gem Comics
156 N. York
Elmhurst, IL 60126
312-833-8787

We're not just a store that sells comics, we're a Comic Book Store.

Graham Crackers Comics
108 E. Main St. (RT 64)
St. Charles, IL 60174
312-584-0610

Serving the Fox Valley with new & old comics*games* Robotech.

Graham Crackers Comics
5 East Chicago Ave.
Naperville, IL 60540
312-355-4310

Complete selection new/old comics. Gaming, Bloom County and much more!

Graham Crackers Comics
5228 S. Main St.
Downers Grove, IL 60515
312-852-1810

Complete comics selection in a professional setting!

Larry's Comic Book Store
1219 W. Devon Ave.
Chicago, IL 60660
312-274-1832

16th Anniversary sale April 23-24 everything 20% off!

Moondog's Comicland
1231 W. Dundee Rd.
Buffalo Grove, IL 60090
312-259-6060

"The Midwest's finest shops."

Moondog's Comicland
1403 W. Schaumburg Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 60194
312-529-6060

"The Midwest's finest shops."

Moondog's Comicland
139 W. Prospect Ave.
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
312-398-6060

"The Midwest's finest shops."

Moondog's Comicland
Deerbrook Mall
Lake Cook and Waukegan Rds.
Deerfield, IL 60015
312-272-6080

The North Shore's only full service shop.

Moondogs Corporate Headquarters
301 Lively Blvd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
312-806-6060

"Chicagoland's largest retailer - 4 shops to serve you better!"

The Paper Escape
318 West First St.
Dixon, IL 61021
815-284-7567

New & back issue comics, paperbacks, trading cards, games & accessories. We mail!

Randy's Collectible Comics
P.O. Box 98
RR 1 Cedar Rd.
Lockport, IL 60441
815-838-8593

Golden / silver / current. Discounts on all comics. Boards, boxes and bags.

Tomorrow is Yesterday
5600 N. Second St.
Rockford, IL 61111
815-633-0330

Huge selection! Comics, back issues, games, books, cards! Mail order!

Unicorn Comics & Cards
216 S. Villa Avenue
Villa Park, IL 60181
312-279-5777

Illinois' finest selection of back issues - over 100,000 in stock.

INDIANA

Range Line Comics - Muncie
2150 White River Blvd.
Muncie, IN 47303
317-288-8863

New/collectors comics, supplies, books, subscriptions, magazines, open 7 days.

Range Line Comics - South
2344 E. Stop 11 Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46227
317-888-9645

New/collectors comics, supplies, cards, subscriptions, magazines, open 7 days.

Range Line Comics - Carmel
1319 S. Range Line Rd.
Carmel, IN 46032
317-844-3310

New/collectors comics, supplies, cards, subscriptions, magazines, open 7 days.

Range Line Comics-West
5618 Georgetown Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46254
317-297-3007

New/collectors comics, bags, boards, boxes, subscriptions, books, magazines, games.

KENTUCKY

Comic Interlude, The
188 Woodland Ave.
Lexington, KY 40502
606-231-9237

Save 10% with either valid college I.D. or our reserve system.

LOUISIANA

Comic Book Emporium
5201 Nicholson Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70820
504-767-1227

Comics* games* paperbacks* mail-order* credit cards welcome* open 7 days.

Gold Mine Comics & Records
4222 Magazine St.
New Orleans, LA 70115

MAINE

Downeast Comics
12c Center St.
Brunswick, ME 04011
207-729-8945

Comics new and back issue. Gaming and lead, BB cards, video, posters.

MARYLAND

Alternate Worlds
9924 York Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030
301-667-0440

Discount subscriptions, fantasy gaming, Trek & Who. Knowledgeable staff & friendly service.

Big Planet Comics
4865 Cordell Ave. (2nd Floor)
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-654-6856

Hours: Monday - Saturday: 11-6, Friday: 'til 8, Sunday: 12-5

Galactic Enterprises
16 Crain Hwy. N
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
301-760-9538

Comics, role playing / war games, supplies. Open everyday.

Geppi's Comic World, Inc.
Hechinger Square at Security Mall
7019 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21207
301-298-1727

Comics, Baseball cards & supplies, Doctor Who, Sci-fi, subscription service.

Geppi's Comic World, Inc.
8317 Fenton Street
Silver Springs, MD 20910
301-588-2545

Comics, Baseball cards & supplies, Doctor Who, Sci-fi, subscription service.

Geppi's Comic World
1718 Belmont Ave., Bay M
Baltimore, MD 21207
301-298-2981

Send \$2.00 for our sampler pack \$10.00 retail value. Full sub. serv., Blackthorn, Harveys, Dells & Gladstones.

Geppi's Comic World
Harbor Place
301 Light Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
301-457-0910

Comics, Baseball cards & supplies, Doctor Who, Sci-fi, subscription service.

MASSACHUSETTS

Alley Cat Comics
640 Main St.
Hyannis, MA 02601
617-778-7288

Finest selection of comics on the Cape. Golden Age, Silver Age and current comics. Discount subscription service.

Bob's Hobbies & Collectables</

EVENTS

(From Page 59)

Inn at MacArthur Airport, 3845 Veterans Hwy., 10am-4:30pm, T: 27, F: \$38., A: \$04. Vincent M. Grassi, 36 Park Ave., Carle Place, NY 11514. PH: 516-741-8193.

HAZLET, NJ - April 24 - Collectors Showcase. Sheraton Inn, Rt. 35 South, Exit 117 Garden St. Pkwy., 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 36, F: \$40., A: \$2. Mike Grecco, PO Box 189, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. PH: 201-291-1632.

BROOKLYN, NY - April 24 - Collectibles Show. Golden Gate Inn, Knapp St. Belt Pkwy. (Exit 9), T: 50, F: \$40., A: free. Harry Dubner, "Golden Gate Inn, 3867 Shore Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY. PH: 718-934-6962.

NIAGARA FALLS, NY - April 24 - Collectors Extravaganza. Convention Center, 10am-5pm, T: 600, F: \$29., A: \$2.50. Ted Hanes, 20 Burke Dr., Buffalo, NY 14215. PH: 716-835-1483.

WAYNE, NJ - April 24 - Comic Book Convention. Fairfield Holiday Inn, Rt. 46, 1/4 mile from

Willowbrook Mall. Frederick Greenberg, RD 1, Box 25A, Ringoes, NJ 08551. PH: 201-788-6845.

CLARK, NJ - April 24 - Comic Book & Non-Sport Cards Show. Howard Johnsons, Exit 135 off Garden State Pkwy., 10am-4pm, FL \$35., A: \$2.50. Callahan Marketing, P.O. Box 4221, Highland Park, NJ 08904. PH: 201-937-5790.

LONG ISLAND, NY - April 30-May 1 - Comic Book, Baseball Card & Memorabilia Classic. Nassau Coliseum, Hempstead Tpke., Uniondale, Sat. 1-10pm, Sun. 12pm-5pm, T: 120, F: \$100., A: \$3., kids \$1. Showtiques, Ltd., Ed Tashman, PO Box 592, Jericho, NY 11753. PH: 516-681-1118.

SPRING VALLEY, NY - April 30 - Ramapo Comic Con II, Ramapo High School, 400 Viola Rd., 10am-4pm, T: 25, F: \$30., A: \$1. Jay Horowitz, Ramapo High School, 400 Viola Rd., Spring Valley, NY 10977. PH: 914-354-3352 eves.

PACIFIC

STATES IN REGION: Alaska, Calif., Hawaii, Ore.

and Wash.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - March 19-20 - Comics & Da-Kind, Cathedral Hill Hotel, Geary St. & Van Ness Ave., 10am-5pm, A: \$5. per day. Lindsay Chu, 1643 Noriega St., San Francisco, CA 94122. PH: 415-753-9678.

VAN NUYS, CA - March 19 - San Fernando Valley Con IX, Holiday Inn, 8244 Orion Ave., 9am-4pm, F: \$35., A: \$1. PH: 818-363-3301.

BREMERTON, WA - March 20 - Kitsap County Comic & Card Show. High School, 10am-4pm, T: 40, F: \$35., A: \$1.50 adults, \$1. under age 10. Larry Dufey, PH: 206-895-1710.

STOCKTON, CA - March 27 - Cosmic Heroes Con IX, Hilton, 2323 Grand Canal Blvd., 10:30am-4:30pm, T: 35, F: \$40-\$50., A: \$2. Bill Herrell, 6132 Pacific Ave., Stockton, CA 95207. PH: 209-957-3957.

LOS ANGELES, CA - April 3 - Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Blvd., 10am-5pm, A: \$1.75. Bruce Schwartz, 1802 W. Olive Ave.,

Burbank, CA 91506. PH: 818-954-8432.

EUGENE, OR - April 9 - 4th Annual Comic Book Show. Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Monroe Sts., 10:30am-5pm, T: 50, F: \$40., A: \$1. Darrell Grimes, 770 East 13th, Eugene, OR 97401. PH: 503-345-2568.

PORTLAND, OR - April 10 - Comic Book Show #19, Memorial Coliseum, Wheeler & Broadway, 10:30am-5pm, T: 120, F: \$50., A: \$1. Second Genesis, 5860 NE Going St., Portland, OR 97218. PH: 503-281-1821.

VAN NUYS, CA - April 16 - San Fernando Valley Con X, Holiday Inn, 8244 Orion Ave., 9am-4pm, F: \$35., A: \$1. PH: 818-363-3301.

OAKLAND, CA - April 22-24 - The Wonderful World of Comics, Convention Center, Broadway at 12th St., Fri. 12pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-7pm, Sun. 10am-6pm, F: \$125., A: \$7.50 per day a door, 3 day pass available, \$6. per day advance. Bob Borden, 2831 D Miller St., San Leandro, CA 94577. PH: 415-352-5832.

SEATTLE, WA - April 24 - Center Con 11,

Seattle Center Flag Pavilion, 10:30am-4:30pm, T: 100, F: \$40., A: \$2. Bill Wormstedt & Carl Waluconis, Box 2043, Kirkland, WA 98033. PH: 822-5709 or 827-5129.

LOS ANGELES, CA - May 1 - Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Blvd., 10am-5pm, A: \$1.75. Bruce Schwartz, 1802 W. Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91506. PH: 818-954-8432.

BAKERSFIELD, CA - May 15 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Casa Royale Motor Inn, 251 S. Union Ave., 11am-6pm, T: 35, F: \$40. before April 24, A: \$2. Leroy Harper, 7400 Stockdale Hwy. A, Bakersfield, CA 93309. PH: 805-397-9135.

VAN NUYS, CA - May 21 - San Fernando Valley Con XI, Holiday Inn, 8244 Orion Ave., 9am-4pm, F: \$35., A: \$1. PH: 818-363-3301.

PLAINS

STATES IN REGION: Iowa, Kan., Minn., Mo., Neb., N.D. and S.D.

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CBG RETAILER DIRECTORY

The following is a listing of comic shops across the country, arranged by state. Be sure to mention that you saw it in CBG! Retailers listed in bold type carry The Comics Buyer's Guide.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Back Issue
10 Spring St.
Nashua, NH 03060
603-883-6974
Comics new & old. Also open every Sunday noon - 5 p.m.

Collectibles Unlimited
30A Warren St.
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-3712
One stop shop for comics, baseball cards, stamps, coins & supplies.

Comic Store
66 Lake Ave.
Manchester, NH 03103
603-668-6705
Comics, games, videos and open 7 days. Who could ask for more?

NEW JERSEY

Collector's Center
729 Edgar Rd.
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
201-355-7942
Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 12-8, Wed.-Fri. 12-6, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 1-5.

Comic Relief!
156 A Mercer Mall
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
609-452-7548
Illustrated entertainment for the entire family! Frequent visits by comic creators.

Comic Relief!
106 Clifton Ave.
Lakewood, NJ 08701
201-363-3899
Illustrated entertainment for the entire family! Frequent visits by comic creators.

Comic Relief!
24 Mill Run Plaza
Delran, NJ 08075
609-461-1770
Illustrated entertainment for the entire family! Frequent visits by comic creators.

Comic Relief!
116 B Main St.
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
201-855-2922
Illustrated entertainment for the entire family! Frequent visits by comic creators.

Cosmic Comics
216 N. White Horse Pike
Somerdale, NJ 08083
609-627-2621
5 Years in business, this is our New Location.

Fantasy Factory Comics
110 E. Main St.
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
609-625-7367
The Jersey shore's most complete comic shop. Role-Playing games.

Fat Moose Comics and Games
235 Ridgedale Ave.
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927
201-898-4734
Comics, baseball cards, dungeons & dragons, war games. Mon.-Sat. 10-9:30, Sunday 12-5.

Montclair Book Center
223 Glen Ridge Ave.
Montclair, NJ 07042
201-783-3630
Comics, collectibles, magazines, books on all subjects. Great atmosphere.

Passaic Book Center
594 Main Ave.
Passaic, NJ 07055
201-778-6646
Comics, Magazines, Sci-Fi, PB's, hard covers, over 1 million in stock.

Rainbow Collectables
Laurel Hill Plaza
Clementon, NJ 08021
609-627-1711
Comic books - new - Silver-Golden supplies - want lists - Baseball cards.

Temdee Collectibles
15 Whitman Sq. & Blackhorse Pike
Turnersville, NJ 08012
609-228-8645
Want lists filled, send SASE. Retail - Wholesale - Supplies - Baseball cards.

Time Warp Comics And Games
584 Pompton Ave.
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009
201-857-9788
New & back issues. Discounted store subscriptions & role-playing strategy games!

NEW YORK

Amazing Comics
12 Gillette Avenue
Sayville, L.I., NY 11782
516-567-8069
Specializes in Golden and Silver Age comics. New issues subscription service.

Azusa Collectibles
353 Route 347
Nesconset Highway
Hauppauge Shopping Center
Hauppauge, NY 11788
516-361-3549
Long Island's most interesting store: comic books, sports cards, stamps, supplies.

Bush Hobbies
414 Hawkins Ave.
Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
516-981-0253
Long Island's best selection of comic books and baseball cards.

Collector's Comics
1971 Wantagh Ave.
(at Sunrise Highway)
Wantagh, NY 11793
516-783-8700
A Paradise for comic collectors and gamers. Everything you need.

Collector's Comics
167 Deer Park Avenue
Babylon, NY 11702
516-321-4347
Now 2 locations to serve you better!

Comic Art Gallery
231 East 53rd St.
New York, NY 10022
212-759-6255, 688-5622
Complete selection, new comic sale, Sci Fi books, undergrounds. \$25.00 Rebate.

Fanta Co Enterprises Inc.
21 Central Ave.
Albany, NY 12210-1391
518-463-1400
Comic shop, mail order, publishing, conventions. 10 years of quality.

Flash Point
"The Science Fiction & Fantasy Shop"
105 West Broadway (25A)
Port Jefferson, NY 11777
516-331-9401
Comics * Science Fiction Books * Dr. Who * Gaming * Bloom County * Star Trek

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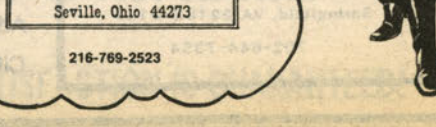
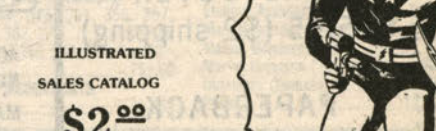
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AR 323	1/100 Valkyrie Fighter VF15	12	4.00	2.00
AR 324	1/100 Valkyrie Fighter VF10	2	4.00	2.00
AR 325	1/100 Valkyrie Fighter VF1A	11	4.00	2.00
AR 335	1/100 Super Fighter VF15	12	5.00	2.50
METO (Crusher Joe)				
23005	1/144 Fighter 1	12	1.50	.75
23006	1/144 Fighter 2	12	1.50	.75
23010	1/200 Gaffly	18	1.50	.75
23013	1/800 Assault Frigate	3	1.50	.75
23017	1/400 Missile Frigate	19	1.50	.75
Total: 779				

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The following is a list of books I'm getting in a few months.

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Write to Jack Hamersley 3545 NE 64th, Portland, Or. 97218 (503) 284-8643

Flash	grade	price	Green Lantern	grade	price	Justice League	grade	price
Issue #			Issue #			Issue #		
125,128	VF	\$2.40	21,25,28	VF	\$2.40	24,28	VF	\$2.70
126	VF	\$2.40	22,24,29	VF	\$2.40	25,28	VF	\$2.70
127,131	VF	\$2.40	26,27	VF	\$2.40	26,27	VF	\$2.70
129	VF	\$2.40	28	VF	\$2.40	28	VF	\$2.70
129	VF	\$2.40	31,36	VF	\$2.40	31	VF	\$2.70
131,139	VF	\$2.40	31,37	VF	\$2.40	34,36,40	VF	\$2.70
134	VF	\$2.40	32,35,38	VF	\$2.40	31,32	VF	\$2.70
135,136	VF	\$2.40	34,38	VF	\$2.40	37	VF	\$2.70
137	VF	\$2.40	39	VF	\$2.40	38	VF	\$2.70
137	VF	\$2.40	41,42,49	VF	\$2.40	39	VF	\$2.70
140	VF	\$2.40	43,46,47	VF	\$2.40	42,44,50	VF	\$2.70
141,143,149	VF	\$2.40	43,45	VF	\$2.40	41,42	VF	\$2.70
142,147	VF	\$2.40	48	VF	\$2.40	44,52	VF	\$2.70
142,148	VF	\$2.40	50	VF	\$2.40	45,49	VF	\$2.70
143,146,148	VF	\$2.40	50	VF	\$2.40	46	VF	\$2.70
151,153,157	VF	\$2.40	51,53,60	VF	\$2.40	48	VF	\$2.70
152,153	VF	\$2.40	54,55,57	VF	\$2.40	52,57	VF	\$2.70
153,155	VF	\$2.40	59,61,64	VF	\$2.40	53	VF	\$2.70
150	VF	\$2.40	55,56,66	VF	\$2.40	56	VF	\$2.70
150	VF	\$2.40	62,64,69	VF	\$2.40	58	VF	\$2.70
150	VF	\$2.40	63,67,70	VF	\$2.40	58	VF	\$2.70
161,165,166	VF	\$2.40	68,72	VF	\$2.40	59	VF	\$2.70
161,166	VF	\$2.40	69,73	VF	\$2.40	61,64,69	VF	\$2.70
162,164	VF	\$2.40	74,75	VF	\$2.40	62,66	VF	\$2.70
160	VF	\$2.40	76	VF	\$2.40	63	VF	\$2.70
169	VF	\$2.40	93,95,95	VF	\$2.40	65	VF	\$2.70
170,178	VF	\$2.40	78	VF	\$2.40	67	VF	\$2.70
172	VF	\$2.40	79,80,85	VF	\$2.40	67	VF	\$2.70
172	VF	\$2.40	81,83,84	VF	\$2.40	67	VF	\$2.70
173,175,180	VF	\$2.40	82,83	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
174	VF	\$2.40	83	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
175,180	VF	\$2.40	83	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
177,179	VF	\$2.40	83,84	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
182,185,186	VF	\$2.40	83	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
183,188	VF	\$2.40	88	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
184,190,191	VF	\$2.40	90,98	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
187	VF	\$2.40	91,92,95	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
187	VF	\$2.40	92,94,96	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
192,195,197	VF	\$2.40	93,96,103	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
193,195,199	VF	\$2.40	93,95,95	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
194,198	VF	\$2.40	101,105,106	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
201	VF	\$2.40	102,103	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
201,208	VF	\$2.40	107,109,114	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
202,210	VF	\$2.40	108,111,115	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
202,204,208	VF	\$2.40	108,111,115	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
204,207	VF	\$2.40	110,113,119	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
205	VF	\$2.40	110,113,119	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
211,210,211	VF	\$2.40	122,124,130	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
212,216,222	VF	\$2.40	122,124,130	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
213,222	VF	\$2.40	126,128,131	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70
214	VF	\$2.40	129,133	VF	\$2.40	72	VF	\$2.70

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23 G+	14	(p.o.c. l.v.) 15 G/VG	55
24 F+	5	19 VG-	35
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1 G	60	19 F+	10
4 G	25	20 F+	10
8 F+	10	21 VG	58
10 F+	60	21 VG-	45
14 VG-	20	Word Science Fantasy 25	33
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The Thing #12	45	(SCARCE)	
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Punisher Limited Series #1 7.00	WOLVERINE #1 3.00 #2 2.50 #3 2.00 #4 1.50
Punisher #1 2.50 #2 2.50	JL Inter. New #1 3.00 #2 2.50 #3 2.00 #4 1.50
Pun. #5 #4 2.50 #5 2.00	JLE #3 #4 1.25 #4 1.50 #5 #7 1.00
Flash (New) #1 2.00 #2 1.50 #3 1.00	Grips #1 2.00 #2 1.50 #3 1.00
ADVENTURERS I #1 2.50 3.50 4.00 5.00	USAGI Yojimbo Special 4.00
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TEENAGE MUTANT TURTLES #1 4.00 #2 3.50 #3 3.00 #4 2.50	TANT #1 3.00 #2 2.00 #3 1.50 #4 1.00
AMAZ. Spider #1 2.00 #2 1.50 #3 1.00 #4 .75	WEB of Spider #1 1.50 #2 1.00 #3 .75
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EVENTS

(From Page 60)

KANSAS CITY, MO - March 18-20 - "Doctor Who" Convention, Hilton Plaza Inn, One East Forty Fifth St., Confirmed Guests: Anthony Ainley, Deborah Watling, John Levene, Mark Strickson, Eric Hoffman, Ronald L. Nicholas, 2325 Monroe, Kansas City, MO 64127. PH: 816-231-8467.

ST. LOUIS, MO - March 19-20 - Comic Book & Classic Baseball Card Show VII, Holiday Inn-downtown, 8th & Phillips Ave., Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, T: 50, A: 50¢, K. Joe Johnson, Rainbow SportsCards, 1513 E. 10th St., St. Louis, MO 63103. PH: 605-338-9519 or 605-582-6092.

ST. LOUIS, MO - April 10 - Spector Club Comic Show, Kopoling House, 4035 Keokuk, 11am-3:30pm, T: 50, F: \$16-\$20, A: 50¢, Tony Gladish, 3917 Ohio, St. Louis, MO 63118. PH: 314-772-1548.

MASON CITY, IA - April 30-May 1 - All Paper Show #6, Southbridge Mall, 100 South Federal, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 12pm-5pm, T: 50, A: free, Mike Tickal, Oak Leaf Comics, 23-5th St. SW, Mason City, IA 50401. PH: 515-424-0333 or 424-2200.

OVERLAND PARK, KS - May 7-8 - Mo-Kan Comics Festival, Kansas City Merchandise Mart & Con. Ctr., 115th & Metcalf, 10am-6pm, T: 80, F: \$75, A: \$3, Mike Wileman, 7163 Lowell, Kansas City, KS 66111. PH: 913-334-0389.

ST. LOUIS, MO - May 15 - Spector Club Comic Show, Kopoling House, 4035 Keokuk, 11am-3:30pm, T: 50, F: \$16-\$20, A: 50¢, Tony Gladish, 3917 Ohio, St. Louis, MO 63118. PH: 314-772-1548.

SOUTH CENTRAL

STATES IN REGION: Ark., La., Okla. and Tex.

HOLIDAY INN SOUTHWEST, 11160 SW Freeway, 10am-8pm, F: \$90, A: \$5, Larry's Comic Shop, 4412 N. Shepherd, Houston, TX 77018. PH: 713-973-6177.

COLLEGE STATION, TX - March 24-27 - Aggie Con '88, Memorial Student Center, Texas A & M University, 8am, Mar 24-4pm Mar. 27, T: 100, F: \$50, A: \$14, for 4 days, Jennifer Rich, AggieCon '88, Box J-1, MSC-TXAMU, College Station, TX 77840.

AUSTIN, TX - April 2 - YOW! Comic Book Convention, Chariot Inn (I-35 & St. Johns), 10am-7pm, T: 32, F: \$25, A: \$1, Greg Black, PO Box 16116, Austin, TX 78761. PH: 512-251-6959 after 5pm or 512-465-2601 7:30am-4:30pm.

AUSTIN, TX - April 2 - YOW! Comic Book Convention, Chariot Inn, 135 & St. Johns, 10am-7pm, T: 44, F: \$25, A: \$1, Greg's Comic, Greg Black, P.O. Box 16115, Austin, TX 78761. PH: 512-251-6959.

AMARILLO, TX - April 10 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, La Paloma Inn (formerly Quality Inn), 2915 I-40 East, 10am-4:30pm, T: 30, F: \$25, A: \$1, Rick Harris, PO Box 2335, Lubbock, TX 79408. PH: 806-795-2543.

TULSA, OK - April 16 - Science Fiction-Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Howard Johnsons Motor Lodge, Skelly Dr. at 11th & Garnett, 9am-6pm, F: \$35, A: \$1, Tulsa Baseball Card & Science Fiction Comic Book Show, 2761 E. Skelly Dr., #700, Tulsa, OK 74105.

HOUSTON, TX - April 23-24 - Comic Show, Ramada Hotel Southwest, 10am-8pm, F: \$70, A: \$3, Larry's Comic Shop, 4412 N. Shepherd, Houston, TX 77018. PH: 713-973-6177.

HOT SPRINGS, AR - May 6-8 - Roc Kon 12 (SF, F, M, C, G), Royal Vista Inn, 2204 Central Ave., Friday afternoon through Sunday, T: \$20, A: \$10, until Dec. 31, \$14, until April 15,

\$18, thereafter, Margaret Middletown & David Ryan, PO Box 45122, Little Rock, AR 72214.

AUSTIN, TX - May 7 - YOW! Comic Book Convention, Chariot Inn (I-35 & St. Johns), 10am-7pm, T: 32, F: \$25, A: \$1, Greg Black, PO Box 16116, Austin, TX 78761. PH: 512-251-6959 after 5pm or PH: 512-465-2601 7:30am-4:30pm.

AUSTIN, TX - May 7 - YOW! Comic Book Convention, Chariot Inn, 135 & St. Johns, 10am-7pm, T: 44, F: \$25, A: \$1, Greg's Comic, Greg Black, P.O. Box 16116, Austin, TX 78761. PH: 512-251-6959.

SAN ANTONIO, TX - May 14 - Second Saturday Con., Econolodge, 333 NW Loop 410, (formerly Ramada Inn), 10am-8pm, F: \$25, A: \$1, Kerrville Comics, 1205 Broadway, Kerrville, TX 78028. PH: 655-6557.

LUBBOCK, TX - May 15 - Comic Book & Baseball Card Show, Holiday Inn Civic Center, 801 Ave. Q, 10am-4:30pm, T: 30, F: \$25, A: \$1, Rick Harris, PO Box 2335, Lubbock, TX 79408. PH: 806-795-2543.

SOUTHEAST

STATES IN REGION: Ala., Fla., Ga., Miss. and Tenn.

VERO BEACH, FL - March 20 - Vero's Comics & Cards Con, Holiday Inn, 8797 20th St. (Rt. 60), 10am-4pm, T: 30, F: \$30, A: \$1, Carlos Martinez, 277 N. Babcock St., Melbourne 32935. PH: 305-259-2374.

COLUMBUS, GA - March 25-27 - Magnum Opus Con 3, Columbus Ironworks & Convention Center, Front Ave. Roland Castle, c/o Magnum Opus Con, 4315 P. Nono Ave., Macon, GA 31206. PH: 912-781-6110.

FORT MYERS, FL - March 27 - Chet Rogers Record Trader I, 2071 Cleveland Ave., no adults dealers, kids-set up free, sell or trade, bring your own table, 11am-3pm, Chet Rogers, 258 Delray Ave. SE, Ft. Myers, FL 33905. PH: 813-337-5119.

NAPLES, FL - March 27 - Comic Book, Stamp,

BB Card & Memorabilia Convention, Moose Club, 5224 N. Tamiami Tr., 9am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$40, A: free, Marge Honkanen, 511 S.E. 33 St., Cape Coral, FL 33904. PH: 813-574-7731.

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - April 9-10 - Comic, Record & Card Show, Ocean Center, 101 N. Atlantic Ave., 10am-5pm, A: \$2, Mark Muir, 15 Concord Dr., Ormond Beach, FL 32074. PH: 904-441-6395.

CARTERSVILLE, GA - April 9 - Hobby Con '88, (Star Wars, Dr. Who & Gaming), Civic Center, 435 W. Main St., 11am-6pm, T: 25, F: \$25, A: \$1, Patrick, PH: 404-234-5309 after 6pm, Dan, PH: 404-748-2791.

TAMPA, FL - April 9-10 - Vulkan Tampa '88 (Star Trek), Ashley Plaza Holiday Inn Downtown, 111 West Fortune, PO Box 786, Hollywood, FL 33022. PH: 305-925-2539.

GAINESVILLE, FL - April 17 - Jubilee Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention (C. SF), Holiday Inn, (Univ. Center) 1250 W. Univ. Ave., 10am-4pm, Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

FT. MYERS, FL - April 17 - Comic Book, Stamp, BB Card & Memorabilia Convention, Robert E. Lee (Best Western), 6611 US 41, N. Ft. Myers, 9am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$35, A: free, Marge Honkanen, 511 S.E. 33 St., Cape Coral, FL 33904. PH: 813-574-7731.

KNOXVILLE, TN - April 23 - Classy Con 10, Holiday Inn Northwest, I-75 at Exit 108, 10am-5pm, T: 40, F: \$25, A: \$1.50, Mark Derrick, 3244 Castle Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37412. PH: 615-624-3702.

SAVANNAH, GA - April 23 - Jubilee Comic & Science Fiction Convention (C. SF), Holiday Inn, 7100 Abercorn St., 10am-4pm, Jubilee Enter., 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587.

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LAKELAND, FL - April 29-May 1 - 4th Semi Annual Collectors Show, Civic Center, 700 W. Lennan, T: 100, F: \$125-\$225, A: \$2, Ed Kuzmar, 1739 NW 2nd Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33432. PH: 305-368-7422.

ATLANTA, GA - May 13-15 - Drexel '88, Sheraton Century Center Hotel, I-85 at Clairmont Rd., 11am Friday-7pm Sunday, A: \$10, per day, Owen Ogletree, 810 Club Lakes Pkwy., Lawrenceville, GA 30044. PH: 404-381-7272.

TAMPA, FL - May 14-15 - Trekcon Tampa '88, (Star Trek), Holiday Inn Airport, 4500 West Cypress St. Info: PH: 305-940-9539.

CANADA

PENTICTON, BC - March 20 - 2nd Comic Book & Sports Card Convention, Legion Hall, 502 Martin St., T: 30, F: \$12, A: 50¢, Bob's Comics, 1425 Main St., Penticton, BC V2A 5G4. PH: 604-492-4258.

VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA - March 20 - Comic Book Swap Meet, Heritage Hall, 3102 Main St., 12pm-5pm, T: 70, F: \$10, A: \$1, Allan Burns, PO Box 48873, Bentall Stn., Vancouver, BC, CANADA V7X 1A8. PH: 604-432-1361.

CALGARY, ALBERTA - April 10 - Comic Convention, Stampeder Inn, 3828 McLeod Tr. S. F: \$10-\$15, A: \$2, C3, PO Box 204, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2H6.

LONDON, ONTARIO - April 10 - Comics, Cards & Movie Memorabilia, Ramada Inn, Hwy. 401 & Wellington Rd., 10am-5pm, T: 32, F: \$45, A: \$2, adults, \$1, students, Gary, Let's Collect, Box 654, St. Thomas, Ont, Can N5P 4C3. PH: 519-631-8655.

MONTREAL, QUEBEC - April 24 - Comic Book & Sports Collectibles Show, Hotel Le Chateaubriand, 6500 Cote De Liesse, Ville St. Laurent, 10am-4pm, A: \$3, Elwin Shapiro, PH: 514-733-9672.

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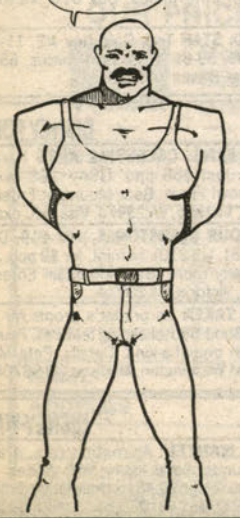
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AN APA is being born. Several fine art students are launching a creatively minded, general discussion APA. All are welcome, but spaces are limited. Just let me know your interest, and I'll get back to you. David Moninger, 1229 Chestnut St., Apt. 1125, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

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WANTED: EPISODES original "Twilight Zone"; "When Things Were Rotten". VHS. Dale Roberts, Messiah College, Grantham, PA 17207.

PERSONALS

4005 PERSONALS

LONELY FEMALE into comics seeks correspondence from men also into comics. Thomasina Routledge, 1819 Bellevue Ave., #103, Seattle, WA 98122.

DO YOU remember when iron man was strapped to the giant wheel? Silly, wasn't it, but a fond memory nonetheless. If you're female, and enjoy Concrete, Taxi, Barney Miller and Warner Brothers cartoons, among other things, we wanna hear from you! Write to: Tom and Mike, 28 Southbridge Rd., Bear, DE 19701. Because a discriminating mind is a terrible thing to waste.

THANKS JOHN Byrne, Mark Gruenwald, George Perez, David Micheline, and Bob Layton for making comics enjoyable as ever. Dennis Viau.

I WANT to thank everyone at Atomic Comics for the best subscription service around. You're doing great guys! Elvin Harkins.

TERRY LEE don't quit! The best is yet to come! The Killing Joke, The Cult, The Wanderers, and many more! Happy Belated Birthday! Poonzila.

READ THE Rovers From Eternity and help save a great book. Steve Bennett is a writer to watch. Ron Fortier.

JULIE: THANK you for understanding my dreams, for fulfilling them, and for dreaming with me. I love you. Benjamin.

LONG LIVE the Masked Man! Thank you B.C. Boyer for the laughter and the tears. Signed: A Fan, David Polselli.

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TO GRAFFITI Gang: I miss all the cronies! (God knows why...) Yer pal, Danny, in San Francisco.

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COMICS

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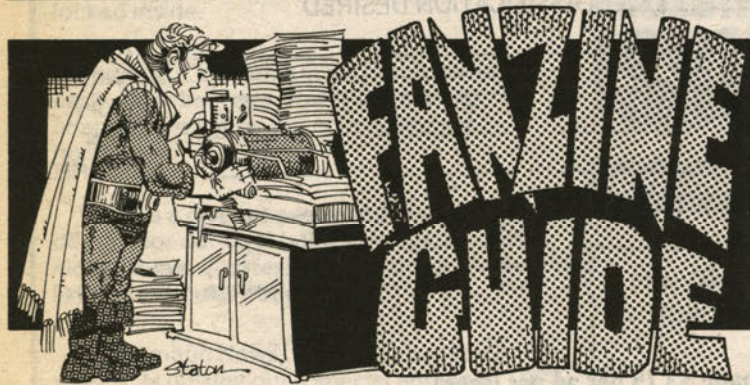
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I'll have more goodies to mention next time. If you have something you want me to review, mail it to Paul Curtis, RD #2, Saegertown, Penna. 16433.

In *Daredevil* #259, shipping June 9, Typhoid Mary frees Ammo, Bushwhacker, and Bullet from prison on the condition that they hunt down Daredevil and beat him to a pulp. The action is courtesy of writer Ann Nocenti, penciller John Romita Jr., and inker Al Williamson.

Little Wizards #1 ships June 9, bringing the Saturday-morning cartoon series to Marvel Comics. Written by Laura Hitchcock, pencilled by Ben Brown, and inked by John D'Agostino, it will be a bi-monthly, priced at \$1.



By Paul Curtis

Hey ho! Fanzines can be a pleasant ego trip or aid in communication between people with similar interests, and there it usually stops. I've had the heartening experience recently of putting my small-press abilities to some community use: a video review sheet I've kept going on a bi-weekly basis, and now the opportunity to draw instructional material for children on

the subject of dental care.

If you're doing small-press publications, see if there isn't a chance to do something like it in your community. It's sure to hone your talents for your own uses, and might just give you enough of a reputation to help float your own projects, financially.

• Autobiographical fan comics can be too self-indulgent to read, but sometimes the work is at

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